

Government decides on firm policy against Ulster strikers at crisis talks

The Government will not give way to the strikers in Ulster and will not give up its responsibilities in the province, a strongly worded statement said last night after a meeting at Chequers between Mr Wilson, his senior colleagues and the three leaders of the Northern Ireland Executive.

Northern Ireland, who was at the Chequers talks, also attended an emergency Cabinet meeting called afterwards. In Ulster the power workers' union said that its men would refuse, because they feared intimidation, to work beside any British soldiers sent into the five power stations affected by the strike.

'No surrender' agreed at Chequers

By John Groser
Political Staff

The Government is resolved not to abrogate its responsibilities in Northern Ireland. That was the message Mr Rees, the Secretary of State for the province, took back to Ulster last night after an emergency Cabinet meeting. Ministers who attended reviewed the means by which the authority of the lawfully constituted Government and the Executive in Northern Ireland would be upheld.

There could be no question, in the Government's view, of Mr Faulkner and his colleagues resigning, ministers emphasized. Equally, Mr Faulkner was anxious about speculation that the Wilson Administration was reaching the end of its patience in its dealings with the province. That Mr Wilson and his ministers said, was not true.

Mr Wilson reminded the Chief Executive and his colleagues that the Westminster Parliament had passed laws that were overwhelmingly supported by MPs. There were indeed those who supported other solutions, but they were few in number and did not represent the Government. The Opposition, he went on, had pledged publicly its support to any further measures that the Government would take to deal with the Northern Ireland crisis. The Liberal Party was also behind the Government.

Far from opening out, the ministers went on, the Government was resolved to take whatever firm measures were necessary to reassert law and order in the province. There could be no turning back now in the face of what amounted to blackmail. Robert Fisk writes from Belfast: The three leaders of the Northern Ireland Executive flew back to Belfast last night with their Administration still intact but with the devastating strike in Ulster still solidly maintained by the right-wing politicians, the Chequers meeting reaffirmed that the constitutional arrangements laid down by the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom and also, as far as Northern Ireland was concerned, of the Executive.

in the plants, would refuse to work beside troops. This means that even if the Army's 250 technicians were used in an attempt to increase the power supply, their action could well have the opposite result.

One of the trade unionists representing the power workers said that they did not want to support the strike, but would be in fear of their lives through intimidation if they worked beside the troops. Throughout the day the Ulster Workers' Council, whose leading members are running the strike from their headquarters in east Belfast, held meetings. At least one member of their executive flew to London during the morning.

There were more long queues outside the petrol stations yesterday, though not as long as the queues at social security offices, which sometimes contained 5,000 men and women, and there were more reports of petrol tanks being escorted by members of the Ulster Defence Association. Once again UDA men turned up at garages to question motorists but large amounts of oil and petrol did get through to service stations during the day. Although limited to one gallon each, many people are managing to keep their cars on the roads.



The Prince of Wales, smiling but rather grimy, at Maesteg, Glamorgan, yesterday with Mr Alan J. Reed, colliery manager, after he had crawled along a coal face where the height was only 3ft 6in.

Strike may cut TV coverage of sport

BBC television broadcasts of major holiday sporting events may be disrupted over the weekend after a decision yesterday by 500 members of the National Association of Theatrical, Television and Kine Employees to continue a strike over regrading proposals.

Cricket and horse racing may be the first sports to suffer because scene-shifters and driver-riggers are refusing, among other things, to man outside broadcast mits. The BBC is losing live and recorded coverage of outside events. Two programmes were lost yesterday, live coverage of the Rothmans tennis championships at Bournemouth and recorded highlights of the world Latin American dancing championships at the Albert Hall, London.

The action began on Wednesday after 10 union men were suspended for refusing to work. Yesterday they had not been reinstated, although it was understood the BBC was willing.

Israel-Syria accord on disengagement line

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, May 24

Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, has secured complete accord between Israel and Syria concerning the line of disengagement on the Golan Heights, an exchange of prisoners, and the repatriation of war dead, according to officials in Jerusalem. He is now working on the issues of the strength and composition of the international force to police a United Nations buffer zone and the depth, the size of the forces, and the quantities of weapons to be permitted in restricted armistice zones on either side of the zone.

Dr Kissinger, who had talks with the Israeli Government in Jerusalem today and was due to fly to Damascus tomorrow, said he is preparing an American proposal which would attempt to bridge the remaining differences between the parties. While Israel and American officials in Jerusalem spoke of "good progress" towards a disengagement with Syria, tensions in the frontier areas were high today. Military and police forces continued a vigorous manhunt for terrorist squads similar to the group intercepted and shot dead yesterday on the Golan Heights.

Israel-Syria accord on disengagement line

her said they were to have taken civilian hostages and kill them unless guerrillas jailed in Israel were flown to an Arab country. In contrast to the perpetrators of the recent Kiryat Shmona and Maalot massacres, who infiltrated from Lebanon, yesterday's group entered Israeli-held territory from Syria.

Comments here said it was unlikely that eight armed men had slipped through the thickly-held Syrian lines without the connivance of the Syrian Army. The Israelis were puzzled as to what could have been Damascus's purpose at this critical stage in the Kissinger negotiations. General Gur, the Chief of Staff, last night ordered arms to be distributed to settlements near the Lebanese frontier and farmers today stayed at home on guard. Some schools in Golan remained closed, and guards at public buildings and factories were strengthened. On the occupied West Bank, road traffic round Jerusalem and into Israel is being strictly controlled.

In further shelling across the Syrian front today, the Israelis reported one soldier killed and two injured. Israel aircraft resumed their attacks on Syrian targets. Two terrorists captured earlier said they were to have taken civilian hostages and kill them unless guerrillas jailed in Israel were flown to an Arab country.

Oil fares soar and more rises not ruled out

Oil fares are to rise on June 1 and the increase will be the biggest in several years. British Rail confirmed yesterday, as predicted in *The Economist* on March 27, rises would be 10 per cent on average for fares. They have been raised by the Price Commission. Parcel rates will go up by one amount and freight by about 15 per cent. Ticket increases will be held in check to a maximum of 10 per cent but for short-distance commutes, particularly in London and the South-East, the increase will be unchanged.

Mr Heath given a boisterous welcome as he arrives for China visit

From David Bonavia
Peking, May 24

Mr Heath arrived here this evening to an unexpectedly boisterous welcome. At Peking airport more than 2,000 young girls in colourful blouses and skirts danced, waved Union Jacks and shouted "a warm welcome".

Huge red and white banners proclaimed "warm welcome to Mr Heath" and "long live the friendship between the Chinese and British peoples". Such honours are usually reserved for visiting Government leaders or close political allies. Mr Heath, who said he was "delighted" to be in Peking and commented on the warm sunny weather, was greeted at the airport by Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, a Vice-Premier, who has recently emerged as one of the principal Chinese spokesmen on foreign affairs. Cymbals crashed and drums thudded. Mr Heath, who is here as the guest of the Chinese Government, is being referred to officially as the former Prime Minister and leader of the Conservative Party.

Man holds 11 people hostage

London, Saturday morning. More than 100 armed police surrounded a bank here today where Chinese men were holding four women in men hostage after an attempt. The gunman repeated calls to surrender to senior police officers.

Dr Soares in London for talks with guerrillas

By Nicholas Ashford

The new Portuguese Government begins in earnest the difficult task of dismantling its African empire this weekend. Dr Mario Soares, the Foreign Minister, arrived in London yesterday for ceasefire talks with the Guinea-Bissau nationalist movement, PAIGC. It is expected that the talks are successful they could provide a precedent for peace talks with guerrilla organizations in the larger and richer territories of Mozambique and Angola.

Marcello Caetano from power a month ago. The talks will also be attended by Dr Antonio de Almeida Santos, Minister responsible for Portuguese overseas territories, who has spent the last week in Mozambique and Angola. During his African visit Dr Santos admitted the possibility of independence for the three Portuguese territories. A delegation from PAIGC was due to arrive in London late last night. It is expected to be headed by Senhor Aristides Pereira, the organization's Secretary-General, whose meeting with Dr Soares in Dakar a week ago led to the decision to hold ceasefire talks in London. The Portuguese are proposing a three-stage plan for Guinea-Bissau's eventual independence. First, there should be a ceasefire, following which PAIGC would be invited to participate openly in political activities in all parts of the country. The second stage would be self-determination, probably by means of a referendum. Then there would be independence.

Duke Ellington dies at 75 in New York

New York, May 24.—Duke Ellington, the jazz musician, died in hospital here today. He was 75. He was admitted to Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center a month ago where he was being treated for a respiratory infection. He became seriously ill last Wednesday and died of pneumonia. President Nixon, calling Mr Ellington "America's foremost composer," said: "We are all poorer because the Duke is no longer with us, but his memory will live on for generations to come in the music with which he enriched his nation." *Obituary, page 14*

The slowest innings in cricket history

Brian Hardie, the Essex cricketer, played the slowest innings yesterday in the history of first-class cricket. He took two hours, 22 minutes to score four runs against Hampshire at Chelmsford. The previous record was four in two hours by P. Corral, of Leicestershire, against Cambridge University at Fenner's in 1930. *Match report, page 21*

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'Millions more' will demand to match threshold pact rises

From Paul Routledge
Labour Correspondent
Copenhagen, May 24

Millions of workers who do not receive threshold pay increases will be submitting claims to keep up with workers who benefit from the operation of the Phase Three wages mechanism.

That was predicted in Copenhagen tonight by Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, Britain's biggest union. As TUC leaders at the congress of the European Trade Union Confederation digested the news from London of the jump in the retail price index, with its automatic effect on the pay of about seven million workers.

After voicing scepticism about the value of threshold agreements, Mr Murray said: "We shall not see a decrease in the cost of living, but we shall see a decrease in the rate of increase in the cost of living." Earlier, addressing delegates at the congress, Mr Jones argued against a proposal for a European Price Commission to hold down the cost of living. He said that the unions in Britain would put in "realistic, not exaggerated" wage claims, once the Labour Government had created the right climate.

Mr Jones, who is also chairman of the TUC international committee, said it was not obvious what role a European Price Commission could play. "There could be administrative difficulties. This could be the creation of yet another measure of bureaucracy, and god save us from bureaucracy. That approach might divert attention from the need for individual governments to pursue different policies on inflation at national level."

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COLLINS

HOME NEWS

Government worried by prospect of Provisional IRA ending its ceasefire of the past week

From Robert Fisk Belfast
The Government is concerned at reports that the Provisional IRA will soon end its ceasefire, which has been in operation for the past four days.

Belfast are reported to be under pressure from paramilitary groups to join the strike. The UDR is carrying out patrols in Northern Ireland during the emergency, but only in company with regular British troops.

and oil only to withdraw partially at the last moment, is shrewd. On several occasions over the past week the Government has had to consider sending troops into the power stations and then had second thoughts at the eleventh hour.

Disengagement call to Prime Minister

A group of 27 members of the Irish Parliament and two Social Democratic and Labour Party members of the Northern Ireland Assembly have signed a letter to the Prime Minister urging the Government to move towards disengagement in Ulster.

Speaking to supporters in his constituency, he said that troops in Ulster were seen as alien and foreign. Men of junior and middle rank returning from the province were bitter about the job that politicians expected them to do, he said.

"For every sort of reason, including the long-term interests of Ireland, the Army should come out. Only the Irish can get together and settle the historic problems of Ireland", he said.

Williams honou gets mixed reception

By John Gasser Political Staff
The news, published yesterday, that Mrs Maria Williams, the Prime Minister's personal and political secretary, is to receive a life peerage aroused mixed feelings at Westminster.



Mrs Maria Williams, the Prime Minister's personal and political secretary, who has been made a life peer, at her London home yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Winter, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, declared: "I am a strong believer in the system of honours, but I think they should be given to people who have served their country, the community, or industry in the full sense of the word. I do not feel honour like this is a reward for a personal service which has respect to the system."

greatly please me", Mr Skinner is chairman of the Labour Tribune group. Mr John Lee, Labour MP for Birmingham, Handsworth, said: "In my view there should be an abandonment of the Lentonist basis, on peerages altogether."

bloody nonsense of the honours list better". Mrs Williams said yesterday that she intended to go to the House of Lords as soon as things settle down, but did not expect to make a speech straight away.

Duke's plea on communities

From Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent, Salford
It was almost impossible to create communities for other people, the Duke of Edinburgh said in Salford yesterday.

change, he said. Britain had been transformed rapidly from a craft rural society to an urban mechanistic one with a tightly controlled bureaucratic structure.

Planning Institute and professor of urban environmental studies at Salford, who chaired the symposium, said the topics being discussed were important to the survival of society.

Soldier killed mother while cleaning pistol

An army private on leave from Northern Ireland is charged with the death of his mother while cleaning a gun, an inquest was told at Keynsham, Somerset, yesterday.

Examinations in Belfast schools may be disrupted

From a Staff Reporter Belfast
The strike in Northern Ireland is threatening to disrupt G.C.E. examinations in the next few days. Many Belfast teachers are unable to reach their schools.

school said yesterday. "Thousands of children are unable to take their exams in Belfast and the opportunities lost for them now are lost for ever."

Mother of nine stole £28 of goods from store

Mrs Maureen Hall, aged 35, a mother of nine children and living on £35 a week social security benefit because her husband is out of work, was convicted at North London Magistrates' Court yesterday.

RSPCA inquiry ends with threats of legal action

A six-week inquiry into the RSPCA ended in London yesterday with threats of legal action and the failure of attempts to pacify rival factions.

had failed abysmally to make them good. The taking of evidence at the inquiry, held at a London hotel, ended yesterday.

Miner fails in attempt to save son

From Our Correspondent Stoke-on-Trent
A pit deputy yesterday led a rescue team trying to dig one of his sons and four other miners from tons of rubble after a roof fall at Silverdale Colliery, North Staffordshire.

School inquiry after suicide of girl pupil aged 15

Teenagers' difficulties in Hampshire schools are to be investigated by a committee set-up by the county's education authority.

Petrol supplies threatened by refinery strike

Eight hundred shift workers at the BP refinery, Grange-over-Church, started a strike last night, threatening supplies of petrol and chemicals.

Hospital gave wrong body to undertaker

An investigation has been ordered at Brierley Hall geriatric hospital, Bradford, after two men died and the wrong body was given to an undertaker.

Lighting damages jet

A jumbo jet airliner was grounded yesterday at Heathrow airport for repairs. Lightning ripped a hole in the radar nose cone as it was coming in to land on Thursday night with 200 passengers from the Far East.

The shocking answer

An advertisement asked volunteers to take part in Yale University research into learning. They were to give increasingly powerful electric shocks to a learner when he gave wrong answers.

Anonymous offer to save ms is withdrawn

By a Staff Reporter
An anonymous benefactor's offer to save for Britain the manuscript of a play by Thomas Heywood, a contemporary of Shakespeare, has been withdrawn.

In brief

Benn complaint raised again
Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, yesterday renewed his complaint of breach of parliamentary privilege against Aims of Industry (Our Political Ability) written by the Commons order paper referring to the Privileges Committee a motion tabled in the last Parliament, which lapsed on dissolution.

Overseas exercise for Captain Phillips

Captain Mark Phillips is to go overseas with the cadets he is instructing at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, on a training exercise next month.

M6 multiple crash

Seventeen vehicles were involved in a multiple collision on the northbound carriageway of the M6 at Wednesbury, Staffordshire, yesterday after three-wheel van was blown off by high winds. Nobody injured.

Plea to assess disablemen in social terms

By our Social Services Correspondent
Discrimination between different categories of disabled people in the social services could be lessened if their benefits were assessed in social terms, Miss Sally Sainsbury suggests in a book published yesterday.

Frontories: hold

to introduce a national disability income system in which degrees of disability will be criteria for the social services administration at London School of Economics devised an index of 64 task her study. They varied cleaning floors, shopping, cooking to tying a knot in a rope.

Weather forecast and recordings

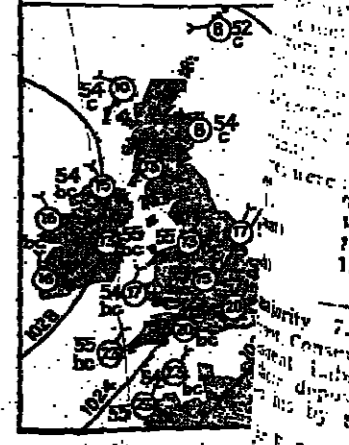
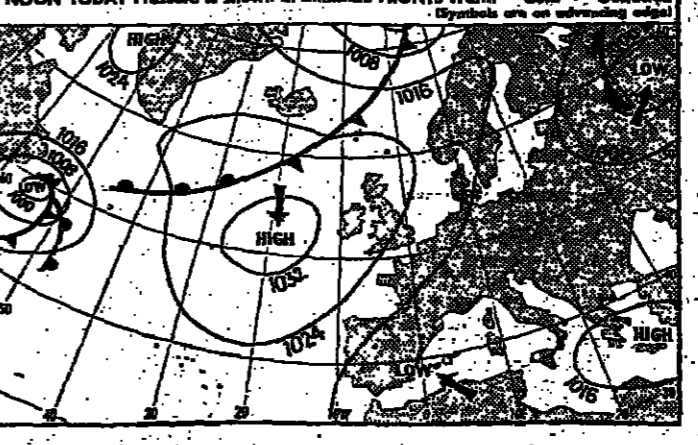


Table with weather forecasts for Today and Tomorrow, including sun sets, moon rises, and wind directions.

Table with weather recordings for various locations including London, Manchester, and Birmingham.

Man killed wife and daughter

George Perrin, aged 44, a van driver, strangled his wife and daughter only three weeks after being discharged from a mental hospital, where he had been receiving treatment for depression. It was stated at Northampton Crown Court yesterday.

Price controls may bring move to unblended butter

Buttlers must give the Price Commission a month's notice before raising prices, say industry sources. They say that the Government's delay in introducing price controls on butter has led to a sharp rise in the price of unblended butter.

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HOME NEWS

Government to set up independent review into pay of teachers

By Tim Devlin Education Correspondent
The Government is to set up an independent review into teachers' pay and the structure of the teaching profession in Britain. The review body is expected to report back within six months and will almost certainly recommend large increases for the country's 500,000 teachers.



London's first woman bus driver, Mrs Rosemarie Viner, aged 22, at the wheel yesterday. She starts duty next week on double-decker buses on route 65. She passed her test on Thursday. Seventeen other London conductresses want to become drivers.

Manx Government intends to build new leisure centre, tourist board chief says

From John Chartres Douglas, Isle of Man
The Manx Government intends to build another leisure centre after the settlement of outstanding insurance claims arising from the Scaevend disaster. Mr Clifford Irving, chairman of the island's tourist board, said yesterday.

Railwaymen and dockers support the nurses

By John Roper Medical Reporter
The terms of reference of the independent inquiry on nurses' pay are likely to include an examination of the pay structure and levels of remuneration used in conditions of service, with particular reference to the current pay claim.

Nat. Front eat Tories: Labour hold Lewham S

Our Political Editor
In an extremely low poll voters comfortably held the seat of Newham, South, Thursday's by-election, the Tories probably the last of the present Parliament. Newham, South, is now one of the ten Labour seats in the constituency, so safe that only a titer of the electorate glit it worthwhile register their vote.

Manuscripts (and velvet suits) at Penhurst exhibition to commemorate a great little sacred monster of history

By Philip Howard
Little Lord Fauntleroy, who in the century of his existence has become a by-word and one of the greatest little sacred monsters of fiction, will have a commemorative exhibition about him opened today.

Kirk inviting Catholic observer to assembly

From Our Correspondent Edinburgh
The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland yesterday decided to invite the Roman Catholic observer to speak at next year's assembly. This decision was taken in spite of fierce speech by one of the commissioners proposing that the observer be not invited.

Police officer's inquiry on bungalow sales

From Our Correspondent Durham
Det Supt Terence Light, of the West Midlands police, stationed in Birmingham, has begun inquiries into the cut-price sale of two bungalows, to Durham police officers.

Oil system changes to be implemented

Working party's idea that a form should be filled out on every defendant in danger of being remanded in custody, giving details of his community ties, his employment record, home background and accommodation, to ensure that the court has sufficient information on which to base a decision.

Transport man cleared of plot

A charge against Robert Withers, a former accountant of the Hiltop transport company, was dropped at Greenwich Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday. The police said they were not proceeding with a charge of conspiracy against Mr Withers, aged 37, of Shoreham Lane, Hildesley, near Sevenoaks, Kent.

WEST EUROPE

New French interest in ensuring the Opposition's rights

From Charles Hargrave Paris, May 24
It looks as though many Frenchmen discovered the rights of the Opposition on May 19, when it came within an ace of winning the Presidential election.

Genoa move to stop release of leftists

Genoa, May 24.—The Genoa Chief Public Prosecutor tried today to prevent the release of eight convicted left-wingers in exchange for the liberation last night of a kidnapped prosecutor, Dr Mario Sossi.

Bishop welcomes Dr Ramsey on E German visit

Bonn, May 24
Dr Michael Ramsey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, arrived in Bonn today for a one-week visit to East Germany.

Scottish nurse charged with Paris kidnapping

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, May 24
Miss Jean Helen Weir, aged 29, was one of seven people charged in Paris this morning with kidnapping Señor Baltazar Suarez, a Spanish banker, on May 15.

W Germany looks back on 25 years

President Heinemann of West Germany led a brief but solemn state act of commemoration in the Bundestag today to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the German Republic and its constitution.

British Nato initiative on US-Europe links falls flat

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels, May 24
A new British initiative to improve Europe's relations with the United States was given a frosty reception by Britain's EEC partners at a Nato Council meeting today. Several delegations, including the French and Belgians, criticized a new British draft for a declaration of Atlantic Alliance principles as being too pro-American.

400 tourists escape as boiler bursts

From Our Correspondent Madrid, May 24
More than 400 tourists, most of them British, were temporarily evacuated from a holiday hotel near Tarragona on the east coast of Spain after an explosion last night.

Two top film awards go to the US

Cannes, May 24.—The American film The Conversation, which won the Golden Palm prize, today won the Grand Prix award at the Cannes International Film Festival.

Correction

A Special Report on Rushmoor on April 19 said Concorde's new braking system contained carbon fibre. It should have said 'carbon composite material' which, although it has a much lower density than conventional brake materials, is inherently brittle.

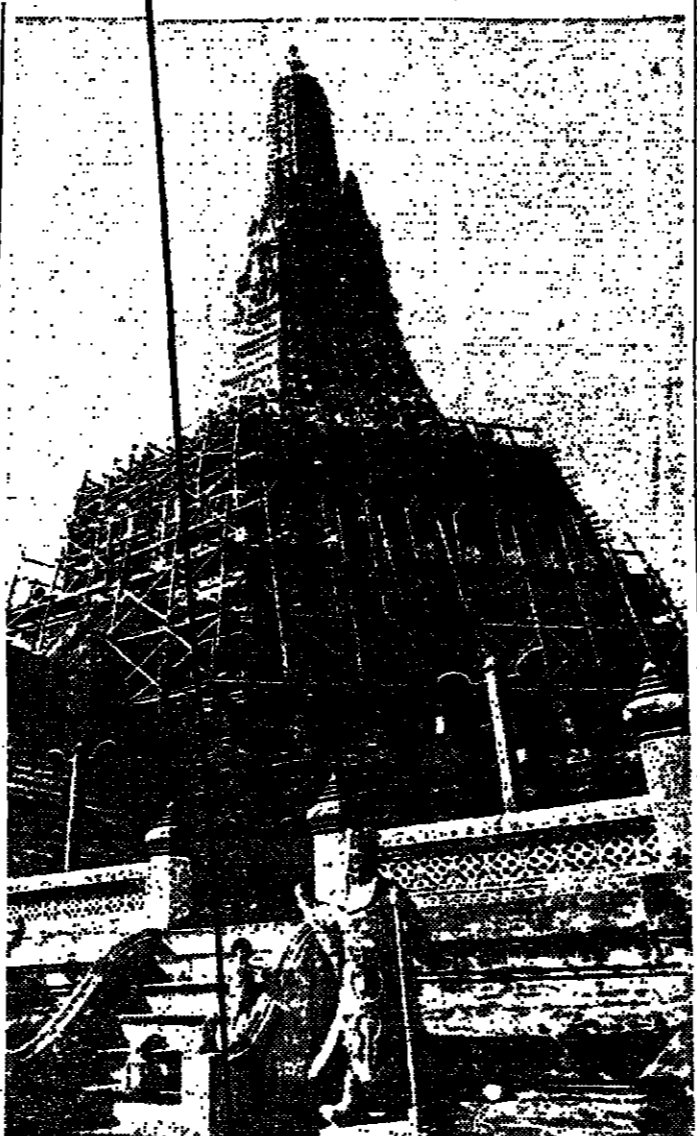
OVERSEAS

President Sadat says his 'ally' Col Gaddafi ran campaign to sabotage Egypt during war

From Our Correspondent Cairo, May 24 President Sadat has accused Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader of mounting a defamation campaign against Egypt "which reached the extent of sabotage"...

On Colonel Gaddafi's speeches in which he belittled Egypt and Syria, President Sadat said: "Some of our officers and men tuned in to radios during the fighting and the Gaddafi speeches had a bad effect on them, which I imagined the colonel would take into account, because men were shedding blood and dying as martyrs."

President Sadat said that Colonel Gaddafi stopped oil supplies and other assistance immediately after the ceasefire and before the carrying out of last January's troop disengagement agreement with Israel.



New view of a tourist attraction: Bangkok's Temple of Dawn scaffolded for restoration work.

Islands may be snag in Soares talks

Continued from page 1 have 30,000 troops in the territory, control Bissau and the other coastal towns. Despite some successes achieved by President Spínola when he was Governor-General and Army chief in Guinea, PAIGC has been steadily expanding the areas under its control.

Verde islands during the London talks although he was prepared to discuss it if PAIGC wanted. If the London talks prove successful they will ease the way towards finding a peaceful settlement in Mozambique and Angola.

Mr Rabin forms coalition in Israel

From Our Correspondent Tel Aviv, May 24 Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israel prime minister-designate, informed President Katzir in Jerusalem today that he had put together a coalition but could not yet announce his new Government.

Threat of copper sanction over Chile arms ban

From Florencia Varas Santiago, May 24 Admiral Huerta, the Foreign Minister of the Chilean junta, today said that Great Britain is "not to be trusted" as an exporting nation, and that Chile will have to reconsider where to make its purchases.

"We too will have to revise to whom we sell copper; there is such a demand for it that we can select amongst those interested and will logically prefer countries that are friendly to us."

New York printers accept automation

From Peter Strafford New York, May 24 The long dispute between the main New York papers and the printers' union appeared to have ended today. Provisional agreement was reached last night on a settlement that will allow The New York Times and the Daily News to introduce automation into their composing rooms in return for guarantees of job security for the printers.

The agreement has been hailed as a landmark in the newspaper industry, not only in New York but in the United States as a whole. Automation has already been introduced in many American papers elsewhere, and agreement in New York is now likely to accelerate the process.

Marines to leave American mission in Peking

From Our Own Correspondent Peking, May 24 The five Marine security guards at the United States Liaison Office here are being withdrawn at the request of the Chinese government, a mission spokesman confirmed today. They will be replaced by civilian guards.

Pathan to rule unsettled Pakistan state

From Our Correspondent Rawalpindi, May 24 Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, has chosen retired Major-General Said Ghawana, a Pathan from the Ferozpur district, as Governor of the North-West Frontier Province. He was sworn in today at Peshawar.

Right-wing party's support grows in Rhodesia

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, May 24 Growing support for the extreme right-wing Rhodesian Party was reflected in Salisbury this week when a crowd of more than 200 turned out on a cold winter's evening to hear the party leader, Mr Leonard Idensohn, attack the Rhodesian Front, the University of Rhodesia and the Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

said that when the voters woke up they would find "this little bishop chap, President of Rhodesia". He called the leader of the Rhodesian Party, Mr Allan Savory, "another one of the boys who has signed us over to the black rule."

American pledge on small nuclear weapons

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, May 24 Officials here are going out of their way today to emphasize the importance to be attached to a new Government assurance that the Pentagon is not developing miniaturized nuclear weapons that could blur distinctions between conventional and nuclear warfare.

what was hoped would be taken as a definite reassurance. The criticism is that such small-yield weapons lower the nuclear threshold, which possibly uncontrolable results, Mr Martin stated: "Categorically the United States Government has no intention whatever to treat such tactical systems as interchangeable with conventional arms."

Lusaka conference shows a new freedom from missionary leading strings of the past Relaxed vigour of African Christianity

From Adrian Hastings Lusaka, May 24 The third assembly of the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) meeting in Lusaka has shown today's African Christianity has a relaxed and confident vigour, and is now fairly free of the missionary leading strings of the still recent past.

ecclesiastical cooperation. The Nigerian and Sudanese civil wars were in full spate. Both affected the churches very considerably. In 1974 in Lusaka things have looked very different. The direction of the assembly has been clearly and obviously African.

still more interested in other things and, though the daily news from Mozambique, Zambia's neighbour, provided a backdrop to the assembly, Mozambique itself was unrepresented and the recent tragic treatment of the Presbyterian church in Salisbury strangely evoked little comment.

Homosexual equality Bill fails in New York

From Our Own Correspondent New York, May 24 A Bill that would have proclaimed equal rights for homosexuals in New York has been defeated in the City Council at the end of a heated campaign.

Murder rate drops in crime city

From Our Own Correspondent New York, May 24 New York seen for so long as a centre of crime, claims that its murder rate is down. The police department has released figures which show the number of murders began to decline last October. For the first four and a half months of this year they were 9.1 per cent below those for the same period last year.

Appeal to Miss Hearst by her sisters

From Our Own Correspondent New York, May 24 New appeals were made in California today to Miss Patricia Hearst, the newspaper heiress, to give herself up. The San Francisco Examiner, of which her father is editor and president, published an appeal on its front page saying: "Throw away those guns."

Mr Panov stripped of title by Supreme Soviet

Moscow, May 24—Soviet officials today informed Vasily Panov, the ballet dancer, that he has been formally stripped of his title of Honoured Artist. Mr Panov told Western reporters in a call from Leningrad that two police officials read to him a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, taking away his title.

Minister's plea on Kenya sport boycott

Nairobi, May 24—Britain hopes that Kenya can be persuaded to change its mind about the total sports boycott imposed because of the British Lions rugby tour of South Africa, Miss Joan Lester, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said on her arrival here today.

Schools in Ecuador closed after rioting

Guayaquil, Ecuador, May 24—All secondary schools were closed yesterday until Monday after a second night of student rioting. Street fighting began after the arrest of a student leader for using a false name and carrying a pistol.—Reuter.

Rostropovich leaves for London tomorrow

Moscow, May 24—Rostropovich, the world-famous cellist, said today he would leave the Soviet Union on Monday for a two-year stay in London. He is expected to be joined by his wife, Galina Vishnevskaya, the soprano, and their two daughters later.—Reuter.

Mr Nixon in fresh crisis over 'Plumbers'

From Fred Emery Washington, May 24 The "Plumbers" crisis case ran into more complications here today, with President Nixon facing a new risk of being cited for obstructing justice. The President must answer today subpoenas for a decade on behalf of the defendants arrested by Mr J. Edgar Hoover and Mr Charles C. Son, two of his former senior advisers.

Annul election call by opposi

Santa Domingo, May 24 Dominican Republic's opposition parties today called for the May 16 presidential elections, has asked the electoral board to annul the result. President Joaquin Balaguer's Reformist Party was usually supposed to be the dominant party in the election but withdrew in an alleged irregularities campaign and polling.

Floods engulf another town

From Our Correspondent Melbourne, May 24 The latest town engulfed by flood water in Northern Victoria is Nathalia, 20 miles from Echuca. Half the town was under water tonight. An official said the town would be a frightening situation if homes had been evacuated two buses were ready to further evacuate to safe zones, but it was in doubt because of the application of the State Government's anti-apartheid economic sanctions which had hurt that economy.

White...

PARLIAMENT, May 24, 1974

Important studies into life in tower blocks

House of Commons
SIR GEORGE YOUNG (Ealing, Acton, C), initiating an adjournment debate on the problems of families living in tower block estates, said the tower block was the Socialist Centre Point: a monument to the short-sighted paternalism of so many city fathers. The trouble was not much that Centre Point was empty as that the tower block was full. That the tower block was an economic and social disaster was conceded by the fact that no more were being built. He would like an assurance that loan sanction would not be given for any more should any application be made. Children living on these estates were a constant source of worry to the mothers. They were usually isolated in the flats or they were playing in an unsuitable and often dangerous environment outside. On one estate in West London 40 per cent of the population had criminal records. A concentration of this order in one area was hardly healthy for the rest of the community. MR KAUFMAN, Under-Secretary for the Environment (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab) said high rise blocks need not necessarily be problem blocks. Some were well designed with good facilities and only resident guests or tenants could get in. These blocks were well landscaped and tenants could take a pride in bringing in visitors. Tenants were so selected to avoid a lot of friction between young and old. In many cases the blocks were reserved mostly for old people and some families without young children, for instance. There were serious problems between the young who wanted somewhere to play and quiet, they wanted peace and quiet. There were problems of repairs that needed to be done and problems of keeping the estates tidy.

Postal and Weekend Shopping

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SAVE £ £ £ £
A LONDON'S MOST FABULOUS REPRODUCTION FURNITURE CENTRE
MR RADIE, Under-Secretary for Energy (Middleton, Lab), said that the electricity boards faced the prospect of a deficit in the year of £500m and something had to be done by the Government to cut that figure. To get close to breaking even, the boards needed an overall price increase of 50 per cent for domestic and other quarterly consumers. The boards had been asked to restrict the increase to the amount required to cover the higher fuel costs alone. Off-peak rates would remain lower than ordinary rates. They would remain about 0.5p cheaper per unit than the cost of the fuel burnt to produce the electricity. The public had not been cheated. Mr Radie had been made that the percentage reduction of ordinary rates to off-peak should remain precisely the same. House adjourned 4.30 pm.

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No cheating on charges for off-peak electricity

MR WYN ROBERTS (Conway, C), initiating a debate on the increase of 70 per cent in on-peak and night rate electricity charges, said advertisements promoting night storage heaters had as their theme "Half price electricity". But the off-peak and night consumption rate was no longer available at half price. It had gone up from 47 per cent to 60 per cent of the unrestricted consumption rate. Some people (he said) see this as a breach of faith, to put it mildly, on the part of a nationalized industry. (Conservative cheers.) The Government was still subsidizing the domestic electricity consumer to the tune of £130m to £140m a year. But what was the thinking behind the limitation of the subsidy to the on-peak user? Why pick on him for the devastating increase of 70 per cent? Could it be that the Government knew the heaters had been used a lot of money in storage heaters and were unlikely to do away with them? MR JOHN PAGE (Harrow, West, C) said there was considered to be a con trick by a nationalized industry. Because it was a nationalized

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Law Report May 24 1974 No power to order out divorced husband

vent v Brent
The court has no jurisdiction to order a divorced husband from a tenancy flat of which he is the tenant so that his former wife and own up children can remain in occupation. Mr Justice Dunn said, the Family Division when using an application by Mrs sephie Mary Brent for an injunction to exclude her husband, James Henry Brent, from the matrimonial home in Field Road, Warrimuir. Mr Alan Ward for the wife: Mr Justice Dunn said that the husband, who was both in their forties, married in 1952. His children were born in 1953 and 1954. The husband had behaved in a way that she could not reasonably be expected to live with him, including a son aged 16 and a daughter aged 18, had spent a council flat for more than seven years. The rent was £25 a week. The husband had been seen £50 and £60 a week until when he had a heart attack; was now a sick man living on a pension benefit of £125 a week. A hard working woman, took about £20 a week. The husband's take-home pay was £125 a week and the son's £20. The husband had conceded that he was not entitled to any financial provision. The husband and wife were not making terms. The wife and son said that the situation in the house was intolerable. The husband said that the situation, though possible, was unhappy, and a human and social point of view it was undesirable that it should continue longer than necessary. He said that the wife and son with their combined income of £55 a week should be able to find private accommodation. The wife it was said that, the husband's behaviour she could reasonably be expected to go on with him, he by that behaviour brought the situation upon her. Medical evidence showed the wife suffered from anxiety depression. It was submitted the wife and the children had a family unit which should be protected. It was also said that the husband's tenancy was acquired by the parties before they were married and that it should not be taken too strictly of the proprietary rights of the wife. It was well established in Family Division when sending suit control the occupation of the matrimonial home. The wife was refused an order making an order having the effect of excluding a husband from a property. The real reason for the application was not to control the occupation of the matrimonial home but to create a situation which would exist after the divorce was absolute. The wife said that the husband was exercising the matrimonial home using authority would be to give him high priority for living and she could apply to the court for an order having the effect of excluding a husband from a property. The court will protect the interests of

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LEGAL NOTICE

Five of a kind

by Kingsley Amis



ry few people ever came to uppeny-hapenny Cottage. The... The organizer of the house... This was Marigold Pyke (73)...

These five persons, towards... sister Bernard, like Shorry, had... "I don't want to be a nuisance to anyone," said George.

In the sitting-room, which... "What a happy day," said Marigold... "It makes one forget one's old and on the scrap-heap."

"It makes one forget one's old and on the scrap-heap..." "Drives it completely out of one's head..." "It's a marvellous treat for me," said George.

"I've never known such energy. That woman is a human dynamo..." "I met a girl from New Zealand a little while ago..." "I can promise you it won't be the last, George."

Illustration by Janet Woolley

watch Shorry and Trevor bearing George from his bedroom. Several considerations obtained. First was the hope that Shorry might be drunk enough to drop George or even bring the three of them pitching into the hall. That would be some way to compensate Bernard for his failure just now to block the operation under way; it was no comfort to protest to himself that he had never had a fair chance that George's two helpers had reached their joint decision in a flash and gone to execute it with the speed of a promoter-on-hungry fireman. Secondly, to watch so closely and obviously would embarrass George and might also, thirdly, be mistaken for sympathy. But what of that? What if she were to see her brother's interest as it was? Habit must be at work, the habit of wanting to be mistaken for a man of ordinary decent feeling. Anyway, the length, even the bare face of George's conventional intrusions could not fail to annoy Marigold, and their style might well disconcert the two young people, if anything ever could. When the party had half a dozen still to go, Marigold's speeded tortoiseshell arrived on the scene, recognized Bernard and, as always on doing so, hurriedly left the scene again by the nearest exit. This happened to be up the staircase, passed between Trevor and the wall without trouble and disappeared from view, only to reappear almost at once pursued by Mr. Passey, George's elderly bull-terrier. Get and dog reached the descending trier within the same second. There were lurches, stumbles, cries, but George, held fast by Trevor, stayed relatively upright, and it was Shorry who fell not far or badly, however, his head missing by almost a yard the large basket that, full of wet logs, stood near the sitting-room doorway. Bernard held out a hand to Shorry, who got up unaided. The animals were nowhere to be seen. "That damned dog," said Bernard with real feeling. "Not his fault," said Shorry. "No harm done." "Sorry, everybody," said George, a slight figure in a plaid dressing-gown and pyjamas. "It's a bit of his nature to chase a, you know, tabby one when it sees one." "Now let's think," Bernard had said to do so. "I suggest we take George straight out to the kitchen. Luncheon must be just about ready and we don't want to get him settled in the sitting-room and have to move him all over again in a second." Shorry guessed that this proposed arrangement was designed to make George feel he was due for less of a party than he might have started to expect, but said nothing. "I don't want to be a nuisance to anyone," said George. It was, in fact, a quarter of an hour later that the five residents and two guests were gathered in the kitchen. Under the low ceiling, the bare table, laid as it was, had an unfeeling look. It was bare because Adela and Shorry were always spilling things, which weighed against the use of a linen cloth, and the susceptibilities of Marigold and Bernard, in accord for once, ruled out any sort of plastic one. Shorry, of course, would have settled for a few thick-mattresses of newspaper. Marigold, flanked by her grandson and his wife, sat opposite George, Bernard at the head, Adela served consommé. Shorry offered a choice of beer, stout and cider. By Adela's decree, wine was provided only at Christmas and birthday parties; the rest of the time they could not afford enough of anything worth drinking, enough, that is, to satisfy Shorry and not let the rest of the company have to scramble for a second glass. "What a happy day," said Marigold. "It's so nice to have some young people in the house. Especially, if I may say so, these young people." "You may say so," said Bernard, stressing all four words: "young people." "It makes one forget one's old and on the scrap-heap." "Drives it completely out of one's head. As if one had never entertained the thought." "It's a marvellous treat for me," said George. "Just to be sitting on this, er, sitting at the table, it's a marvellous treat for me. I just want to drink with all of her argument, and was off again. "I've never known such energy. That woman is a human dynamo. Of course, she's slowed down a little in the last few years. In my certain knowledge she hasn't had more than, yes, two, no, three, holidays since she started work." "I met a girl from New Zealand a little while ago," said Tracy just as an outside forkful of chicken was entering Marigold's mouth. "She told me—" "I can promise you it won't be the last, George," Adela was still suffering from the most acute self-reproach for never having seriously considered the simple procedure gone through by Trevor and Shorry. It was no excuse to say that routines were easily fallen into, that old age cramped the imagination. She must make a real effort to think of others for a change. "If it weren't for this bloody leg of mine," said Bernard, ruefully, "we could manage it every day." "I'm sure I could do it if I tried," said Adela. "Coming down you probably could, Adela," said Shorry. "Going up's a different matter of course." "A different what?" "Sorry, spoonerizing again. A different pair of shoes. Different. It'd be different taking George upstairs again. Different to bringing him down." Adela's expression cleared at last. "Harder, you mean. Yes, I can see how it would be." She was not being sarcastic, just making sure that Shorry knew he had been understood, as she herself had always liked to know she had been understood. "We'll have a try at it before Trevor goes. So that if it's too much for me we can still get George back to his room—you and Trevor can." "Ah, I think I have it," said Bernard, frowning in pretended concentration. "Have it?" "We might be able to fix up a length of, uh, stuff you use when you're out, so that it's up to things," George spoke enthusiastically. "Run it through sort of round things and put it so that the chap on the outside helping me up can pull on it while the chap on the inside is pulling on the erm..." "Yo-oh heave ho," sang Shorry in tactful translation. "Heave, you, baskets, yo-oh." Marigold said loudly: "When are you two young ones going to start producing some kiddie-widdies?" "It's a question of money, really," said Trevor after a moment. "You see, if Tracy goes on with her acting, we'd have to—" "Oh, money, money, money," cried his grandmother. "I know we live in a materialistic society, but I'd have expected you of all people to be able to rise above that. How many poundies is a baby worth?" "The pater of tiny feet," said Shorry, pouring himself more stout. "Eel belleissimo bambeeno. Sure-a, you gotta—" "It isn't just, just money, Goldie," said Tracy. "As Trevor—" "Children aren't a luxury, they're a necessity," Marigold was off now, as all her hearers had been waiting for her to be off, that is, not in any expected or unexpected direction, just somewhere. "You may think I'm a sentimental old fool. Oh, no—severely practical, I assure you. Where should I be now without my children and my children's children? Answer me that." Among others, Trevor would have liked to do so. His answer would have mentioned two or three rather nasty places in any one of which he thought the old girl should be now instead of where she was, leading parents in this company. A remarkably comprehensive as well as roughly uniform company it was, now he came to flip through it in his mind: apart from the as yet childless couple just now under discussion of a sort, who he knew could end that state any time they fancied, there were present one person altogether uninterested in what had to be done in order to produce children, one who might have gone through the motions a few times, one who had very likely tried to beget a child but had failed, and one who could never have had a chance of bearing a child. It was only thoughtlessness, tactlessness, Trevor told himself charitably, not a motive that demanded genuine and close interest in other people. In fact, Marigold had seen quite early that her trade might be hurtful to Bernard if he was listening, and, in the hope that he was not, it was prolonged it until Adela and Shorry had served the chicken and Brussels sprouts. (To be fair, the risk of also hurting Adela did not cross Marigold's mind.) Then wanting to talk about an old friend had ever met, not only childless but unmarried, who in due course turned out—rather to Trevor's surprise—to be still mobile, and whom incidentally none of the others present had ever met. she put in a brief transition passage about some people's ability to manage without children, thus absently throwing away what there had been of her argument, and was off again. "I've never known such energy. That woman is a human dynamo. Of course, she's slowed down a little in the last few years. In my certain knowledge she hasn't had more than, yes, two, no, three, holidays since she started work." "I met a girl from New Zealand a little while ago," said Tracy just as an outside forkful of chicken was entering Marigold's mouth. "She told me—" "I can promise you it won't be the last, George," Adela was still suffering from the most acute self-reproach for never having seriously considered the simple procedure gone through by Trevor and Shorry. It was no excuse to say that routines were easily fallen into, that old age cramped the imagination. She must make a real effort to think of others for a change. thought, even by someone like Shorry, that she considered her having met a girl from New Zealand a little while ago to be in itself a worthwhile offering. She waited until Marigold had started chewing before she said: "This New Zealand girl—" "She was fractionally too late. Marigold did a mighty swallow. And the holidays she did have weren't really holidays. She'd been going at things too hard and she was ordered to drop everything and have a rest. Her dockle-pockles said they wouldn't be responsible if she didn't." "It can't have been much fun for her family," said Adela into a silence. "How do you mean?" "Well... either they must have gone away without her or not have had any holidays either." "She hasn't got any family. She's always been single." "Oh, I thought you were talking about people having children." "I was, but that was hours ago." "Oh, I thought you still were." "I distinctly told you she was single." "I'm sorry, I must have missed that." "You must," said Bernard jocularly. "Indeed you must. It was necessary so that you could yet again get hold of the wrong end of the stick through the eye of a needle in a haystack." "I'm sorry," said Adela again. "I didn't do it on purpose; it's just that until almost this moment I've had this rather essential job on my hands, do you see?" Bernard showed mild perplexity. "What was that?" "I said I was sorry I got mixed up, but I've had a lot to think about." "I heard every word you said. My tone might have told you that the 'that' I was inquiring about referred not to your remark in its entirety but to something mentioned in it. What, in fact, was your 'rather essential job'?" "Oh, honestly... Shopping and cooking and seeing to all the—" "I see," said Bernard in wouder and yet in ready acceptance. There was another brief silence. Tracy did not break it. Now in the apparent position of being obsessed with the New Zealand girl, she would not run the risk of seeming clinically insane on the subject. Trevor glanced at her with sympathy, no such affection too; after a session like this, a lot of wives would give their husbands a stupendous ballocking as soon as they were alone, but this wife never did anything of that sort, never would in 30 years. Or might people have said the same of Marigold when she was 23? Very few people; surely to God, very few indeed. "Christmas, darlings," said Marigold. "Christmas. Do please say you really and truly are coming—I couldn't face it without you. Not begin to." Trevor said sturdily: "All fixed, Goldie. We'll be here in good time for lunch, and not off again till late, the later the better, in a way; I mean it'll be easier driving. Because the roads'll be clearer. Less traffic." "It'll be so wonderful to have you here. Quite divine." At the last word, Bernard's shoulders jerked slightly. He knew, knew as certainly as that, that he would rise in the morning that she had come across it in some terrifying book on the manners and customs of the Twenties, the decade she believed herself to have notably adored. He did not speak. George did. "Well, it's the children's time, isn't it? Youngsters, anyway. I know nobody'll be actually blowing up, ah, coloured things you after a while, and I don't suppose there'll be any, you stretch them from one corner of the, er, one corner to the other, but we'll have, you will have, prickly green stuff with red, uh, and Christmas, um, thing you eat at the end of the meal, you set it alight, and all the Christmas, people send them and they'll be—" "On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me," sang Shorry drowsily. "Five the hold rings, four calling birds, three French hens, two—" Bernard's hand came down fairly hard on the table. "Before the top of my head comes flying off and starts circling round the room, could we have quiet for, say, 10 seconds?" The tone of his voice matched the style in which he had put his request, but to Trevor, his look did not. Bernard's genial expressions irritation and suave snubs were familiar enough and to spare. This was anger, or hatred. Quiet, a before, Trevor felt disquiet. In a moment, he remembered that in half an hour or so Tracy and he could be decently and safely out of the place. This story has been adapted by Kingsley Amis from part of his new novel *Ending Up*, which is published next Thursday by Jonathan Cape at £1.95. Tracy did not want to have it © Kingsley Amis 1974.

SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS

Table listing concert programs at South Bank Concert Halls, including Royal Festival Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall. Columns include date, time, orchestra/conductor, and repertoire.

Table listing concert programs at Purcell Room. Columns include date, time, conductor, and repertoire.

ART EXHIBITIONS

- List of art exhibitions including 'Commonwealth Art Gallery', 'Eddie Kulukundis', 'William Mann', 'Britten's theatrical triumph', 'Owen Wingrave', 'Alan Blyth', 'Early medieval English ivories', and 'Poetry International 74'.

THE ARTS

Eddie Kulukundis: swings and roundabouts

Theatrical impresarios tend to be an anonymous breed nowadays... Eddie Kulukundis is a producer who has made a name for himself in the theatre world.



Photograph by Fred Langford

So what, so far, are his losses? Unsurprisingly he won't say, although the general estimate in the theatre is that they must now be upwards of £100,000.

A sumptuous milestone

Calisto Glyndebourne

Leppard for his free, luscious realization of the shorbard score. But such a hedonistic opera would convey little of its emotional content, ideals or original appeal if shown to us today in a meticulous, hairshirt realization.

Only the best

Funny Ha-Ha Thames

"Can I have him?" asked Anthea, when nobody else seemed very keen... Michael Ratcliffe's voice of Eric Idle warned us that what we were about to see was no Utterly Naughty that some of us might want to switch off now.

Britten's theatrical triumph

Owen Wingrave Covent Garden

Owen's favour derive surely from the original James Stuart. However, the Wingraves' unwavering militarism is surely representative of any kind of fanaticism warping the mind.

LSO/Previn/Bishop Festival Hall

Bryce Morrison

Initial disappointment caused by Rudolf Serkin's indisposition was superbly erased by Stephen Bishop who, deputizing at short notice, gave what must surely have been the performance of his career.

Early medieval English ivories at the Victoria and Albert

Alan Blyth

Among Britten's many operas, Wingrave has been received in many quarters with less than ecstasy so it may be time to break a lance (perhaps an inapt metaphor in the context of the opera's story) in its favour.

Poetry International 74

The Poetry Book Society's annual poetry festival, Poetry International, takes place this year at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, Nash House, The Mall.

The Poetry Book Society's annual poetry festival, Poetry International, takes place this year at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, Nash House, The Mall, from June 3 to 6, and at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on June 7.

Advertisement for 'THE DAUGHTERS OF HEAVEN' all-girl guitar ensemble from Tokyo. Includes contact information and ticket details.



Whatever you're advertising - a podiatrist or a kitten needing a home - put it in the Times Classified Pages. And rest assured your animal will find an owner.

The loan exhibition of ivory carvings in early medieval England (700-1200AD) organized by the Arts Council and now to be seen at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

William Gaunt

John Colborne

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

TOMORROW AT 7.15 p.m.

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New Philharmonic Chorus

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CLEO LAINE
NASH ENSEMBLE

MONDAY 10 JUNE at 7.45

THE MALCOLM ENSEMBLE

GEORGE MALCOLM harpsichord WILLIAM BENNETT flute
CHRISTOPHER HIRONS violin CHARLES TUNNELL cello

J. S. BACH

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TUESDAY, 11 JUNE at 7.45 p.m.

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TORTELIER

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Chamber Music by Alexander Tcherepnin

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Travel

Beware the samba and the sea in Rio

Copacabana, I am. The beach is deserted. As I walk along the shore...

looks out over the ocean from the peak of Corcovado. But until dusk, and the shadows fall over Rio...

ball (a mania with Brazilians). The more sedate fly-kites or swim or just daze...

establishment is in one of the streets running into the Leme end of the Avenida Atlantica...

table in one of the many cafes which lie like the mosaic pavements of Copacabana and Ipanema...

the inflexible rule with Rio taxis is to state your destination first, sounding as though you know what you were talking about...

Malcolm Brown

Drink

Blackcurrant kick

Everything seems to be coming up blackcurrant, as far as the fashion in mixed drinks is concerned...

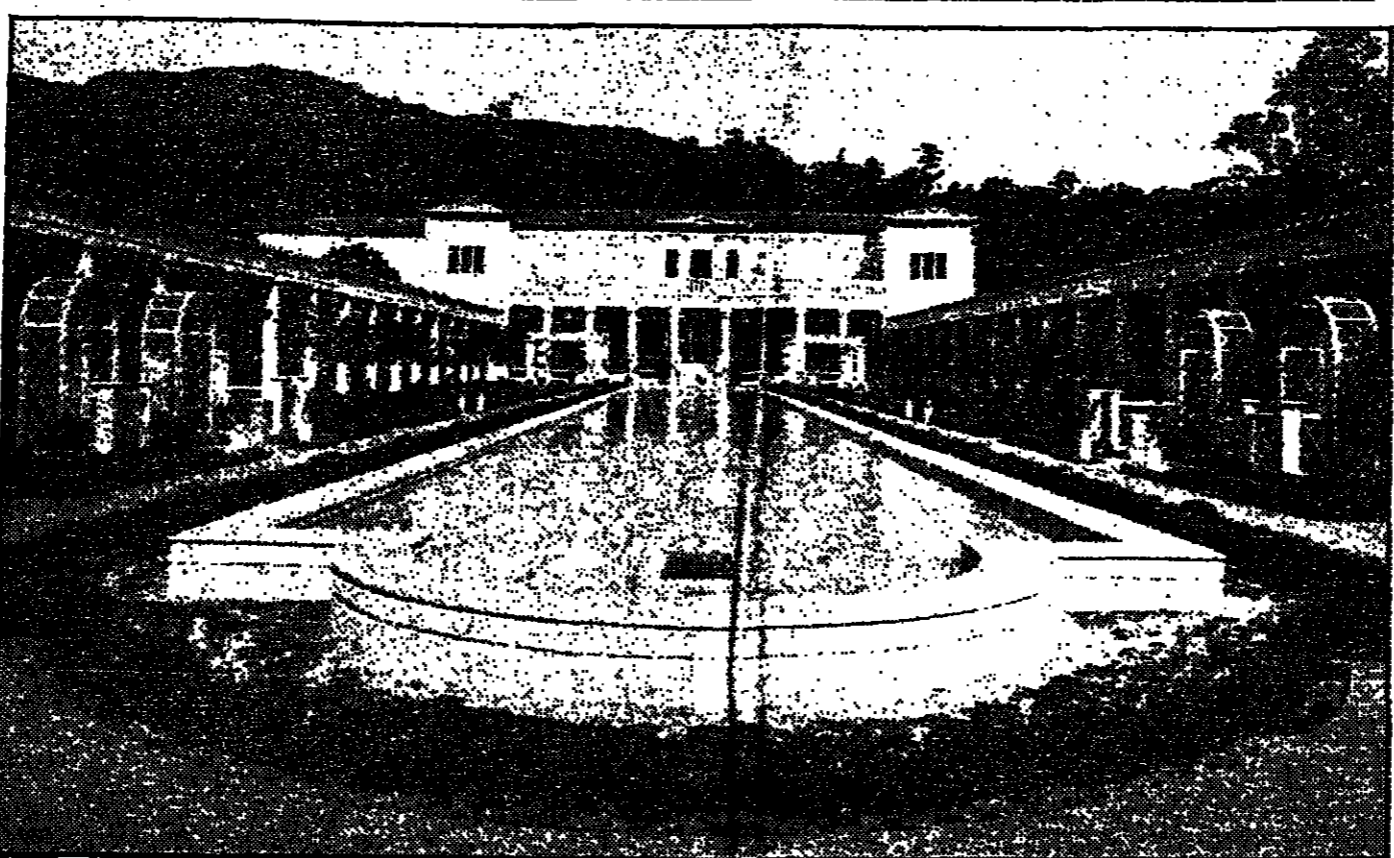
dry white wine can be used, but preferably nothing too delicate. The mixture is best with a touch of roughness in the white wine...

Pamela Vandyke Price

Mr Getty's invitation to share his fantasies

Irreverence keeps breaking in. The whole idea of the new J. Paul Getty Museum at Malibu, just up the Pacific Coast Highway from Los Angeles, is so weird in the context of modern thinking about museum and gallery design...

architectural improbabilities, a full-scale reproduction of the first-century villa of Pausanias in Herculaneum. It is the brand-new home of J. Paul Getty's private museum, showing to the public most of the most important items from his collection of classical antiquities...



shifts from Roman starkness to Edwardian luxury, heavily upholstered and damasked in a style reminiscent of the Frick Collection in New York or the Duveen gallery at the Tate. The gesture is a fully backward-looking. Mr Getty himself has been critical in the past of the classical displays and inhuman setting normal these days in the new museums of which America is suddenly so prolific...

Riesener and such, the artistic company is not exactly cosy. Neither, admittedly, is it very challenging: it is the sort of collection Duveen would have approved of and understood, and hardly any the worse for it, though one does miss perhaps a personal touch in the choice of the objects...

of antiquity implicit in Alma-Tadema's soulful yet glamorous evocation. The museum evidence book notes Alma-Tadema's research in the cause of authenticity for his settings (much like that of the museum's designers, presumably), and adds ruefully that 'The fashion for this sort of work was very strong until the 1910s; it has died almost completely...'

Getty wrote in 1947, Collector's Choice. There, in a fanciful excursion connected with his collection of antique sculpture, Mr Getty gives us a romantic reconstruction of life in the villa he has now had reproduced on Pacific Coast Highway. He draws a portrait of Lucius Calpurnius Piso, Julius Caesar's father-in-law and patrician uncle of the villa, as the richest man in Pompeii, a seigniorial collector whose features must have more than a trace of self-portraiture in them...

John Russell Taylor

GARDENING

FOR ONLY \$2.25! Dwarf Conifers & Heathers Garden. Home & Garden Pride. Dept. TM2, ABERGLEN, N. WALES.

Upstairs is something else again. Here, on the exterior, invention (duly paralleled from other known buildings of the same period) takes over. And on the inside the atmosphere

Gardening Forbidden fruits

The sight of my labouring blossoms reminds me that perhaps it is time I referred once more to poisonous plants and the danger to children if they eat the leaves or fruits. Parents should take the trouble to learn which plants are poisonous and warn children not to eat them. There is a very useful book, Bulletin 161 British Poisonous Plants, published by the Ministry of Agriculture, and obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 72p.

greened tubers are fed to animals the results can be very serious. Potato stems and the foliage of tomatoes can also be fatal to animals. The black berries of privet are poisonous, and children have died after eating them. So too with laburnum seeds, and many other plants.

If a child shows symptoms of drowsiness, internal pains or vomiting, it is always worth considering whether something the child has eaten from the garden or elsewhere may be the cause of the trouble, and if it can be identified, so much the better. I have a feeling that in recent years springs have been fairly mild, late frosts have not been as troublesome as they were in my young days, and we have become a bit too trusting and have tended to plant out tender plants such as geraniums, zinnias and the like earlier and earlier.

The very large flowered modern forms of this cyclamen may be sown now, and will last for several years, either in a greenhouse or as an indoor plant. Then there are the charming dwarf cyclamens - C. europaeum, C. coum, neapolitanum and C. repandum, which are perfectly hardy and, with luck, will increase if planted in a cool semi-shaded spot. But, take my tip and buy growing plants, not dried tubers. They are a bit more expensive but they will grow away much better and you will not have any losses. One year in Vizzavona in Corsica we found large colonies of cyclamens in a beech wood, and the spring and autumn flowering species were all growing happily together.

Roy Hay

COLLECTORS

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STUONHOFF FINE ART. 33, Broad Street, Liverpool W1. REBENI PAIN 1946 to DEANWIND MORRIS.

Jobs for June

Give the lawn another dressing of fertilizer. If there are weeds in it apply a selective weedkiller. But do check that the weed killer you buy will kill the weeds you have in your lawn.

sweet williams and foxgloves. Sow also seeds of perennials such as lupins, delphiniums, hollyhocks, evening primroses and the like. Plant brussels sprouts, savors, purple sprouting broccoli, plant marrows and outdoor tomatoes.

of half the stems of your phloxes, rudbeckias, helianthus and similar plants. Young side shoots will appear to give you a crop of blooms after the first lot have faded. Trim suberitias hard - give them a real army hair cut.

Prune wisteria by nipping back new shoots to leave only four leaves. Keep a sharp watch for pests especially for greenfly on the underside of currant leaves and down in the heart of strawberry plants.

How to have a holiday on the way to your holiday to the USA (or on the way back) Call from just £139

So this is the year you've promised yourself that long awaited holiday in the USA. Fine. But why not have a second holiday by going out (or coming back) on one of the last luxury liners left in the world... the incomparable France?

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HOLIDAY IN THE U.S.A. NO HOTEL OR RENTAL EXPENSES. NO DINING OUT OR TIPPING EXPENSES. Through an IATA Licensed Travel Agent.

FLY AND DRIVE. If there are two or more of you the likelihood is you will not express in Germany. Stay for at least seven days and have a car waiting for you on arrival.

Handwritten scribble or signature.

Sportsview

Jack Nicklaus, champion who still wants to compete



Jack Nicklaus has taken up the pen and shown that he can wield it as mightily as the golf club. This is not a reference to his new book but to an article which appears in a recent edition of Golf Illustration, the American magazine. In it, Nicklaus writes into what he calls the non-competitors in the game—the guys who pick up 100,000 dollars a year plus without ever winning a tournament, and who go round telling the world how happy they are to... Imagine what would happen to the golf tour as a spectacle if everyone out there had no objective beyond dollars. I understand why the public and the media show so little interest in the tour's non-competitors, and I am one hundred per cent behind them. His words will no doubt give rise to some grumbling from the less successful element of the professional circuit, and every time he opens his mouth now he has himself open to their spite.

convinced Nicklaus that he cannot force himself to meet more than 20 American tournaments in a season with perhaps five more abroad. "I am sure I would be a poorer performer if I were to play in 30 tournaments a year, and I would be ready for the time when I would be before I got to the last one." This is not merely a blueprint for Nicklaus. No one who has seen him mature in the past five years could doubt that he has the interests of the game at heart. He is recommending a re-evaluation of the tour's own programme he is prompted not only by the feelings of the leading players, but also by the amount of golf coverage television will stand by and the growth of worthwhile tours in other parts of the world. In all this his allegiance to the British Open championship remains firm, and the basic reason for this is his love of competition. In such events competition is at its purest because the more interest it attracts the more money it will mean more than the prize money. It may be easier for Nicklaus than for others to imply that dollars are a bore, yet he is expressing only what the public is increasingly being made to feel. The higher prize money climbs, the more interest it attracts. In the end it is only the hard core of competition that counts. The most flawless exhibition of skill soon palls unless it is given under pressure. The truth of what Nicklaus asserts applies to this country as much as his own, and it may find an echo also in other sports. Some such hard thinking is certainly needed among our own professionals. I recently heard a much respected figure in professional golf say that he did not play in tournaments expecting to win. It was only if he found himself in contention in the final round that he gave any thought to it. Not everyone feels like that, but the view is encouraged by a proliferation of "pro-am" events which, for all the charitable good they may do, have the effect of taking the edge off the professional's competitive edge. The remarks of Nicklaus on guarantee money are also worth pondering. It was not for nothing that the American Professional Golfers' Association turned their backs on the principle of the guarantee money principle, which they strongly opposed. Such a view can only reinforce the arguments of those who feel that the granting of that right in this country to Tony Jacklin, though intended as a gesture of gratitude, may turn out in the long run to do him more harm than good. Golf, in particular, and sport in general, is lucky to have in its forefront one who wears his champion's crown so well.

Peter Ryde Golf Correspondent

Francis Pym, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland examines the misrepresentation of Sunningdale

Truth is the casualty overlooked in the Ulster campaign of fear

Events move so fast in Northern Ireland, and sometimes with such discouraging results, that it is easy to lose sight of the long term perspective in British policy for the province and the principles which underlie it. Public attention is naturally captured by bombs and strikes and explosions. Indeed such a lengthy and apparently endless series of awful happenings has occurred that a certain weariness if not despair is the state of most people's minds about the province. I think it is timely to see out the background again and look at the situation not from the near distance of today's events but standing much further back. The Conservative administration's analysis of the situation in 1970 led us to believe that a two-fold approach was required. First, it was necessary to support measures designed to remove the causes of grievances and to make it possible for all sections of the population to identify with the Government of the province. Secondly, it was necessary to carry out security measures designed to defeat terrorism. Fundamental to this approach was the need to preserve the opportunity for the people of Northern Ireland to express their democratic wishes on the constitutional status of the province. So we introduced the border poll which, as expected, was overwhelmingly in favour of remaining inside the United Kingdom. In 1970 we were pledged to support the programme of reform which the Stormont Government and the previous Labour administration had been agreed to follow. In spite of all we could do violence continued to grow and political polarization was increasing. In March 1972 after a disagreement on policy with the Westminster Government the Stormont Government decided it could not continue in office and the Stormont parliament was subsequently prorogued. For 21 months Northern Ireland was under direct rule from Westminster by a Secretary of State responsible for the affairs of the province. This period was used for extensive negotiations and consultations with all the parties in Northern Ireland. More than that, Mr Whitelaw asked anyone in the province with views on the future to write to him in several thousand copies, and all of the proposals in Northern Ireland put forward in the past 20 years were invited to a conference in Darlington in September 1972, although some refused to come. Some common ground between the various political proposals was identified. There were numerous rounds of talks and consultations before a new form of government was eventually put in Parliament and approved. It is important to have this background in mind when making an assessment of the new system of government in Northern Ireland. Every party has the opportunity to contribute to its creation; no one was excluded. Mr Whitelaw outlined our policy lucidly when he said in his introduction to the Green Paper published in October 1972 that we wanted "to find a system of government which will enjoy the support and respect of the overwhelming majority. If it is to do so, such a system must emerge in large measure from the ideas and convictions of the Northern Irish people themselves." Such indeed is the manner in which the Constitution Act emerged. Those who do not make any constructive contribution cannot reasonably complain if their particular views have not been carried for as well as they would like. The new constitution provided for an Executive, which would involve the sharing of responsibility in the regional government of the province. Minority did not have any effective say or role in the previous system of government and could not identify with it, one of the most important features of the new system was the opportunity for participation by them and indeed by as many as possible in the community. After the Assembly elections some Northern Ireland politicians decided to have nothing to do with the power-sharing Executive and went all out to try to break it. Agreement was reached, however, between the three parties prepared to cooperate and an Executive comprising the support of 65 per cent of the members of the Northern Ireland Assembly took office on January 1, 1974. The Sunningdale Communique between the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland Executive Designate was the last stage of the negotiations setting up the new system of government. This Communique has been the subject of intense debate and disagreement and was made the major issue in Northern Ireland during the recent general election by political groups who saw vote winning possibilities in the misrepresentation of what was proposed. The Council of Ireland in particular was denounced and represented as, among other things, "an all-Ireland Parliament" and a "backdoor to a united Ireland". On the basis that such ideas were true, a majority of the pro-union population in Northern Ireland voted for candidates standing on an anti-Council of Ireland ticket and these candidates won 11 of the 12 Northern Ireland seats at Westminster. In the midst of the continuing violence and intimidation it is understandable in Northern Ireland that people should be fearful and cautious and inclined to accept sinister interpretations of other people's intentions. But truth has not for the first time in Northern Ireland, and those prepared to play on fears and to misrepresent the facts have enjoyed a success. The fact is that the constitutional position of Northern Ireland is safeguarded in Section One of the Constitution Act which leaves the decision which leaves the hands of the Northern Ireland people. The proposed Council of Ireland was deliberately designed with a view to ensuring that it could not undermine this right. It can have no powers other than those agreed to by the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Dail: all decisions in the Council of Ministers must be unanimous; and it has brought recognition of Northern Ireland's constitutional status from the Government of the Republic, later reaffirmed by Mr Cosgrave on March 13, 1974. It is also a means of recognizing that the minority in Northern Ireland has national aspirations which they have a right to pursue by democratic means. These are the facts, but unfortunately the facts are often less important than what people believe them to be. Some months ago it was becoming clear that the campaign against the new proposals was having an uncomfortable degree of success. Nothing like as much imagination or energy went in to the positive presentation of what the new proposals actually were. Thus the anti-Sunningdale faction grew. No system can operate satisfactorily

if the people turn against it, and it was for this very reason that Mr Faulkner initiated discussions within the Executive and with Mr Cosgrave to see whether a new agreement could be reached on the handling of the Council of Ireland proposals. Such agreement was achieved this week, and we can now expect to see a major battle of persuasion between those who support it and those who decide to continue their opposition. Great responsibility lies with the members of the Executive and their backbenchers and with the Government to ensure that there is no failure of communication, and that the real facts are kept before the people of Northern Ireland. There are a number of points which I have said this in the House of Commons—that a heavy responsibility lies on those reporting events in the province. Lives are at stake; there is a longing for peace; let us not dwell upon the bad news or the sensationalism of the disruptive elements but rather let us give equal emphasis to the good for a change. The fact is the power-sharing Executive has proved not only workable but successful, and, as a recent opinion poll showed, has been achieving widespread acceptance throughout the community. All sectors can now participate in the Government of the province, and the SDLP, slowly but firmly, are pushing their weight behind the forces of the law. We must not waver in our support for the Executive whose members have shown immense courage in sinking long standing differences to work together. The need for a vigorous security campaign against terrorists remains a high priority. The building up of local forces, especially the RUC and its reserve, is an essential part of this, but the army still has an indispensable role. There is no quick or easy way to defeat the

terrorists, but an essential part of our strategy is to impress on them our determination to see the campaign through, and to give them no hope of success. To suggest the withdrawal of our troops from Northern Ireland is to boost terrorist morale and endanger yet more lives. The IRA is operating without substantial support in the Catholic population and apparently underpinned by popular pressure. They have no acceptable political objective. We must, therefore, end their campaign by a combination of effective security measures and by political action which provides a better solution than anything the men of violence can offer. Nor must we allow ourselves to be deflected by the disruption and threats from the other end of the spectrum. The Constitution Act and the power-sharing Executive offer the only hopeful way forward in Northern Ireland. There are, and will continue to be, many difficulties, but any other course contains even more and worse difficulties. We must continue the seemingly unending struggle taking into account the needs of particular political and security situations as they arise but bearing in mind all the time the long-term perspective of our policy in Northern Ireland, our commitment to the people there, and the need to see this through. Only the people of Northern Ireland themselves, if they allow themselves to be led in politically destructive courses by those who are out of sympathy with the rest of the United Kingdom, can endanger the prospect of a stable future for the Province. We must try to dispel their fears where they are misconceived, to meet them where they are reasonable, and to give our full support to those democratic politicians who are seeking to bring peace and stability back to Northern Ireland. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1974

The real facts must be kept before the people

These are the facts, but unfortunately the facts are often less important than what people believe them to be. Some months ago it was becoming clear that the campaign against the new proposals was having an uncomfortable degree of success. Nothing like as much imagination or energy went in to the positive presentation of what the new proposals actually were. Thus the anti-Sunningdale faction grew. No system can operate satisfactorily

Günter Grass and the politics of imagination



Kjell Torrest

No European writer in recent years has been more successful than Günter Grass in making the great leap between imaginative literature and political action, joining it with such dexterity, indeed that we have come to notice the gap between them less and less. The chief gifts which enabled him to do this were, first, his sense of the absurd; and then, his sense of the absurd in its public or private, large or small, sense transmutated into the glittering and sombre canvases of *The Tin Drum* (1959) and *Dog Years* (1963). And second, his grasp of the practical means whereby, once those huge comic fictions had been told, he could play some part himself in liberating his country from the nagging tyranny of its past. He decided to do this by speaking and writing about it, and in the national assumption of power in Bonn by the Social Democratic Party under the leadership of Willy Brandt. "Though I think I now know him, he remains a man who has come from far away... With every step he takes, he means the past his, our national rocks... When he speaks, his sentences push each other. Each pushes the next and is pushed by the one behind it... (If there was a Sisyphus whose wheel would have to be pushed by Willy). Many have agreed to help themselves by helping him. He accepts their help... And this in a whisper: 'I'm worried about him. I'm afraid that he's a target. It could happen any day...' These and passages like them in his new book, *From the Diary of a Snail*, have no exact parallel in our day as a critical and affectionate characterization of a man in high office by a brilliant writer—Mairaux's Mairaux's de Gaulle is the nearest comparison, but Mairaux is a professional in a way that Grass, though hardly an amateur, could never be. He values his detachment, his sense of distance, too much for that kind of unquestioning commitment, so that it is possible to feel that the resignation of Willy Brandt is almost the tragedy of a Grass character disappears for ever, but rather undergoes strange metamorphoses for the common good. Sisyphus will be applying his shoulder to the rock again soon. Grass, who has been in London this week for a show of his recent drawings and etch-

ings—he trained as an artist before becoming a writer—certainly believes so: "Europe is not so rich now that it can afford to do without Willy Brandt". In the *Snail* Grass is much preoccupied with the political and human virtues of Melancholy (on which he read Burton), and that, since few people will stop at this, they have his integrity so much. "What first attracted me to Willy Brandt was that he never spoke simply of justice, but always of raw justice. I thought that was unusual. He has always been both an idealist and a practical political man. He was the first leader in Germany to bring the eighteenth-century ideas of tolerance and enlightenment actually into the government. He admitted other possibilities, other beliefs. He listened. Sometimes I think he listened too much... He's much more German than I am... those blue eyes! I mistrust people far more. He could never believe that the com-

munist still regard the Social Democrats not as the Opposition but as the enemy. He always gave people a chance, an opportunity, but I told him the Christian Democrats were only interested in one thing, getting back to power. Brandt is a teacher. He was always afraid to use political power, but Schmidt is not. When he was Defence Minister, Schmidt integrated the Bundeswehr into democracy for the first time, bringing the young generals and replacing them with younger men. He is a clever parliamentarian. He does not wait for people to come out, as Brandt did: he attacks first. He will be much more dangerous for men of his kind. There is no man to put against him. He will not be able to close the ranks of the SPD—only Brandt could do that—but he will see that such items of Brandt's social reform as worker participation and the currency union will go through. I think he will be a success. But not an example. At a time when the European Community is confused beyond definition, Günter Grass holds a more passionate belief than ever in the need for a European unity that goes beyond monetary agreements and economic treaties, over the guard-dog frontiers to the edge of Russia itself. "It is time for writers and scientists to think about Europe for themselves; we cannot have a federalism without losing our national identities; we have so much in common. We still have a social role to play between the two big powers: we have a well organized European capitalism, but no European working class at all." One man has the vision, the absolute unwillingness to admit defeat, necessary to start the snail's pace of such unity on its way, and that is Willy Brandt. Grass would be helping him. In one of his recent drawings a man is asked to draw a sword blade with extreme care, an antennae stretched and waving for the vibrations that suggest danger. Efficiency. "I'm not sure what's coming out," Grass says of the drawing, "but I think it's slowly shaping into a new book, 'but I'm enjoying it'. And, finally, allows himself the old Grass grin.

Michael Ratcliffe

George Hutchinson

How to rid Parliament of vested interests

However much they may differ in Callaghan, Mr Philip Watkins, Lord Chancellor, Mr William Clark and Sir Arnold Silverstone, have one interest in common: fund raising. They are all party treasurers, Mr Callaghan for Labour, Mr Watkins for the Liberals, the Chancellor for the Tories. If a Conservative peer, Lord Massereene and Ferrard, were to have his way, their burdens would be nicely lightened. Lord Massereene's proposal that political parties should be subsidized by the state in proportion to their popular support has aroused interest in all of them, and not least in the ruling party. As Lord Harris of Greenwich said in reply to the Lords debate, the Government strongly favours wide and vigorous discussion, but without commitment at this stage. What Lord Massereene has in mind is a system of annual subventions calculated on the basis of votes cast for each party in the previous general election. In present circumstances, the Labour and Conservative parties, with 11,654,726 and 11,963,207 votes respectively, would thus receive similar amounts. The Liberals, who secured 6,063,742 votes, would be entitled to roughly half as much, with the Scottish Nationalists and Plaid Cymru rather poor relations. That raises one point for consideration: whether parties should be subsidised only when representation in Parliament is at stake, or whether an Exchequer grant should be determined not by votes cast but by seats held. On the latter basis, the Liberals would be exceedingly ill-placed as things are, with more than 6,000,000 votes but only 14 members in the House of Commons, whereas the Conservative and Labour parties would suffer no disadvantage. Another aspect put to me this week is that it might be better to confine state aid to general election campaigns, leaving the parties to meet their own running costs in between times. Otherwise, so it is argued, they might suffer a dangerous loss of individual initiative, with a decline in party spirit, enthusiasm and even contact in the constituencies. This might well be true, and a modification limiting the subsidies to general election expenditure is perhaps worth pondering. Without such a modification, and assuming that the innovation debared the parties from accepting any other form of financial support, Labour would incur a serious loss in its principal source of re-election—the trade unions, while the Tories would lose what are now the vital contributions of the business world. That might be all to the good. Even if the whole cost of party organization were met by the

Each other, that is to say by us and me, we should have little to complain of. At the same time, as has been mentioned, an outlay of £5m a year, which would amount to the interest upon the ocean of national expenditure. It seems a reasonable position. Better, surely, if everyone should make a modest contribution to the maintenance of our democratic system whatever form the principle might be applied than that two main parties should rely heavily on the moneybags of the trade unions on the one hand, and the property developers as suchlike on the other. But now to the next subject: proportional representation. The Liberal manifesto, in fact, includes a proposal for a vote transfer system in their next election. How could they do otherwise? They find their present political quite maddening, with 6,000,000 votes behind them and a mere 14 seats. Hence the campaign which Thorpe has introduced ahead of the election in an attempt to secure more general support reform—reform which Liberals have been seeking since 1945. He has said, in essence, that the Liberal Party would like to see a new machinery of government is reform of the electoral system itself. Liberal voters have a right to be heard, and they are only Liberal voters. At the election over half the Conservative vote went to defeated candidates and, therefore, played no part in the election. Proportional representation presented in many varieties. One favoured by the Liberals is a system known as the Party's Director of Resources. Mr Anthony Richards, a single transferable vote in which member constituencies. This ensures that constituencies are not too large or too small, and that a smaller than the number of seats would be placed in the election. He needs more. He is advised, however, to indicate further preferences by placing the figures 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. For those who are interested, the Liberal manifesto does not say which will be true, and a modification of the present system is not long, I fancy, before it will be in the land. No taxation without representation. The Liberals, by the way, are a very jolly party in the eyes of the other even. They will be celebrating their election day, though a bit late, on the 15th of June, and on that day the election will be held. It is a long time since the Liberals have had a general election. The Tories, who are now the vital contributions of the business world. That might be all to the good. Even if the whole cost of party organization were met by the

Why archaeologists must explore the present

Archaeology is one of the few professions that has never got around to organizing itself in a politically effective manner. As a result the voices of archaeologists—individually and collectively, lack the prestige and influence that such a body of expert opinion should rightfully have, and consequently the case for preserving or examining the mute records of our undocumented past in the soil often falls by default against the organized echelons of planners, improvers and profiteers. There is at present no way in which the concerned judgment of Britain's professional archaeologists—a highly-trained body of men and women as are lawyers or architects—can be brought to bear on matters of public concern, whether it be the standards and organization of archaeology itself or the losing battle that the past fights with the present. But often the archaeologist is the only person with the specialist knowledge and experience to make a proper case. A lone voice carries but a short distance, and even many lone voices, in disparate chorus, do not gain the profession or its credibility that they deserve. The image of our profession, our prestige and our respectability are at the bottom of a hole in the ground is still all too common. It may well be argued that British archaeology is already sufficiently, albeit fragmentarily, organized: the Council for British Archaeology receives government finance and administers an infrastructure of regional groups of essentially part-time amateur archaeologists; the Royal Archaeological Institute and the British Archaeological Association are at a national level archaeology formalized (or some would say fossilized); pressure groups such as Rescue have had fair success in inducing or shaming the Government into raising the expenditure on emergency excavation; the British Archaeological Society, to influence policy with a series of well-produced studies of specific problems; and the length and breadth of Britain local societies meet, discuss and excavate with variable frequency, enthusiasm and expertise. It may also be argued that professional archaeologists themselves already have sufficient representation in bodies making decisions about their career interests—those in the universities have the Association of University Teachers, those in the Department of the Environment have the various civil service unions, and those employed by local authorities have NALGO and

ASTMS; these organizations represent the individual, not the profession; they are instantly alive to a case of unfair dismissal, but oblivious to a foolish policy or a questionable development which will destroy yet another irreplaceable part of our historic or prehistoric heritage. Britain's archaeologists need a public voice, and in particular the professional archaeologists, whose whose lives are bound up with the pursuit of the past. National and local government policy, whether directed to the expansion or contraction of archaeology and therefore employment, affects them crucially—expansion will find a shortage of archaeologists, contraction a shortage of jobs—as it does not the great number of amateurs, who although often equally skilled are archaeologists essentially for pleasure and not for a living. We need, in fact, an Associ-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TRIKE BREAKING

ne of the powers of govern- in Northern Ireland are usurped by the strike organ- and their henchmen. They question in the high-; they issue orders which are yed; they have their summary laws; they control the large ent the distribution of sup- s. This usurpation is for an rior political purpose: imm-ely to secure a promise of wreck the carefully balanced sitional arrangements re-ly inaugurated in the vince. his is a challenge to which stituted authority can make; one response, and that is to mpt to defeat it. But if the llege and response are to be rily evaluated, two things at must be understood. First, Protestant community. In- the Protestant working class Jelfast, have it in their power wreck any system of govern- in Northern Ireland that s not depend for its authority nity and bayonets. If that nity is prepared to bring ut by withdrawing civil co-ration, by coercion, by unlaw-urisdiction, and by the use of nace of clandestine armed-ces—and if a sufficient pro- of those in that commu-who are not active in these ys nevertheless encourage, ndone, or avert their gaze from, se who are—then the chal-ge will succeed, sooner or er, after more or less destruc- of life and livelihood. Second, if that is to happen, if sitional government is to be idered impossible by those aus, then, as the saying is, all s are off. In particular the arantees given principally for benefit of the majority in rthern Ireland to the effect at the status of Northern

Kingdom as a province of the United Kingdom shall be maintained by whatever means are necessary so long as that is the wish of the majority... those guarantees will be voided. They have all along been governed by implicit condition that by and large that part of the population in Northern Ireland which wishes to maintain the union will cooperate with the reasonable requirements of the Parliament and Government of the United Kingdom as to what maintenance of the union entails. The word "reasonable" is important. It would be possible for the United Kingdom Government to require of Northern Ireland cooperation in policies or measures which put the union in danger, and then when cooperation was not forthcoming to withdraw the guarantees. That would be to act in bad faith. That the Government has not done, and is not in the process of doing. There are false leaders in Northern Ireland who allege that the United Kingdom Government is, in contradiction of the guarantees, propelling Northern Ireland towards an Irish Republic. They misrepresent the facts and the intentions of policy. Mr Paisley is one of them. Much has been made of the projected Council of Ireland; and its capacity to evolve a creeping jurisdiction over Northern Ireland thus paving the way for Irish unity has been greatly exaggerated. But now the grounds for that exaggerated fear have been removed. The Council is to be introduced in a form in which it can exercise no jurisdiction whatever over any part of Ireland. And it will assume such jurisdiction, if it ever does, only after a favourable test of opinion in elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly.

On these fundamental matters British governments have kept faith with the people of Northern Ireland. The present Government is therefore fully entitled to insist on an end to unlawful defiance of the constitution by "loyalist" organizations as much as by republican ones. And it must use all acceptable means to enforce compliance. That is its duty, transcending its obligation to spare the unoffending citizens of the province immediate hardship—an obligation which could be discharged by capitulating to the strike leaders. There is still a long way to go, both in the employment of superior force and in the acceptance of temporary disruption of life for the people of Ulster, before it is necessary to conclude that refusal to be ruled under the constitution on the part of the Protestant community is so widespread and determined that the present arrangements and the guarantees attaching to them must be wound up. How exactly the superior force should be employed, and how the few openings for political suasion should be exploited, is best left to those with responsibility on the spot. But it may be suggested that at the present stage it would be wise to use the Army to the greatest extent for the purpose of distributing supplies and keeping vital services running, and to the least extent for the purpose of breaking the visible power of the strike committees and the gangs they can whistle up. In the end this political challenge will be defeated, if it is defeated, by the wearing or defection of enough of those on whose behalf it purports to be made. The extensive use of troops for any repetition of Operation Motorman which cleared the last of the IRA brigades, at this stage might harden rather than dissipate the support the strike has claimed.

Economic unity of historic houses

From Lord March Sir, The Duke of Bedford in his letter of May 15 does not deal with a real nub of the problem of stave homes and the proposed wealth tax. Many historic houses are part of landed estates and the house, estate and land form an economic and indivisible unity whose wholes intangibly far greater than its parts. Many owners may have relatively small personal assets in a market form such as securities, and they will have to sell some fixed asset in order to pay the wealth tax. Only a last resort are they likely to let agricultural land or property because of the overwhelming need, notably of the owner but also of this country, to retain reasonably large and sufficient farming units. In these circumstances the easiest item to sell will be pieces of furniture or pictures from the collection. Whatever is sold will shatter the essential unity. Large owners and historic associations have been asked to make some land available for public recreational use as well as enabling people to visit and appreciate these houses and their collections. To ensure that our national heritage is not scattered in this way could not land, buildings and contents which meet certain specified criteria for public use be exempted from wealth tax until sold? Yours faithfully, MARCH, Goodwood House, Chichester.

The troubles in Northern Ireland

From Mr J. G. Calvert Sir, Has Mr Tom Dalyell (May 15) ever asked his Irish voters if their cousins in Dublin and Cork are ready to make the smallest sacrifice to ease their fears, hatreds and tensions in Ulster? However courageous and understanding may be leaders like Mr Cosgrave and Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, they clearly did not believe at Sunningdale that a referendum asking the Republic to give up its constitutional claim to sovereignty over Northern Ireland could even be considered or that the extradition of "political" criminals to Northern Ireland was possible. The proposed Council of Ireland, whatever its merits, was immediately represented to the people of the Republic by its Minister of Foreign Affairs as a definite step towards a United Ireland. This emphasis by him alarmed moderate and concerned people and gave support to the demagogues in starting the anti-Sunningdale agitation, and these fears were revealed in the February election. Power-sharing in the Northern Ireland Executive was being generally accepted, a miraculous advance and essential to any peaceful future, and it is a pity that the Government of the British Government, the Dublin Government and the SDLP required the immediate setting up of this Council. There are plenty of other things in the closed Catholic society in Eire which are as repugnant to the majority in Northern Ireland as they would be to the bulk of your readers (there are more serious infringements of personal liberty in the Republic than in other Catholic countries) and these perpetuate the split between the Republic and Northern Ireland. Yours faithfully, JOHN G. CALVERT, Outwood, Craigavon, Holywood, Co Down, May 22.

From Mr D. L. Armstrong Sir, The British Government has now a clear choice in Northern Ireland between, on the one hand, continued anarchy and bloodshed on an unprecedented scale, or holding an election and allowing all the people of Northern Ireland to express through the ballot box their view on the future government of the province. The answer must be the democratic one of holding an election. Mr Heath has set the precedent: when faced with the intransigence of the miners he "went to the country" and accepted the wishes of the majority. Yours faithfully, D. L. ARMSTRONG, Maycroft, Bursstead Close, Cobham, Surrey, May 23.

Disclosure of MPs' interests

From Mr Reginald Pound Sir, It is a sad reflection on these times that the nation's representatives are not now to be trusted to uphold voluntarily the best traditions of public life. Myself, I don't doubt that only a minority cannot so be trusted. The full weight of responsibility, I suggest, should be placed squarely on the shoulders of the local constituency association members, who should vet their parliamentary candidates with far more thoroughness than some are inclined to show. England's stature book ought not to be lumbered with this needless and, in my view, insulting new measure. Yours faithfully, REGINALD POUND, Savage Club, 86 St James's Street, SW, May 23.

Travelling fairs

From Mr David Braichwaite Sir, Many Londoners will celebrate Bank Holiday with a spin on the Galloping Horses, some bumps on the Dodgems and perhaps a sickening whirl on the cyclone. But to many it may have gone unnoticed the Easter pleasure fair on Wanstead Flats, London's largest fair, was not held this year. Continued hostility and what appears to have been an unacceptable arrangement concerning rents caused the travelling showmen to abandon negotiations and, unhappily, a similar pattern of events is emerging in many other cities. In the atmosphere of restrictions and non-cordial relations with local authorities, the survival of the travelling fair is seriously threatened. Over the past 25 years capital investment has declined due partly to uncertainty about the future, although the paucity of roundabouts and other equipment now being built cannot be discounted. The Showmen's Guild has of necessity concentrated its efforts on self-defence and the protection of its members, thus inhibiting expansion, the introduction of new ideas and the projection of a better public image. It is now a matter of urgency that those in government, both at national and local levels, should recognize the provision of public entertainment, of which the fair is almost the sole example, is an important amenity. As such it should not be subject to inflationary rents nor should it be banished to impractical sites remote from the centres of population. Local improvement committees, the perpetual freshness of the travelling fair is a precious heritage. For centuries it has germinated the many facets of popular entertainment. The showmen, practitioners of an ancient craft, deserve recognition and a secure future. The patronage of children and of those adults who have not forgotten how to laugh should be evidence enough to quash a minority of killjoys. Yours faithfully, DAVID BRAICHWAITE, 23 Sloane Street, SW1, May 22.

OVER THE WAGES THRESHOLD

e retail price index has risen April sufficiently to trigger payments of £1.20 a week to retelling like seven million others next week. This raises dramatic form the question sber the experiment of eshold agreements, initiated in terms of the last Govern-ent's Stage Three price and pay-ge, has not gone so disastrously ng as to require immediate gislative action to suspend its uration. Well-qualified observers est-imate that the threshold mech-ism could be further triggered many as another ten times ween now and the time when threshold clock stops with the lication of the October retail e index at the end of ember. That means that as h as £5 a man a week could dded to particular industries' costs by the end of the year igh threshold payments e. is a matter of fine debate isely how badly this kind of ation in pay will affect retail e next year. Some analyses et that the direct impact by middle of next year should e more than to add about an 2 per cent to the retail price e. This, however, assumes in the short run, industry itself be absorbing through

reduced profit margins a good part of the extra pay costs generated by the threshold mechanism. It is quite possible that industry will not in fact be able to absorb as much of the extra costs as such calculations assume. Already industry's profitability is under heavy pressure from the impact of the three-day working, from the increased burdens imposed by the Budget and from the prospective slowdown in the economy. At the same time monetary conditions are getting tighter, despite the temporary and misleading easing of short-term interest rates. Such conservative estimates of the direct impact of threshold payments back on to retail prices also assume that only about a third of the labour force are covered by threshold agreements. It is possible, even probable, however, that there will now be a rush by uncovered workers to make threshold arrangements when they see in today's news that their brethren are getting automatic rises of £1.20 a week which they also could get more or less for the asking. If two-thirds of the whole labour force was covered by threshold agreements, probably the practice maximum, then threshold payments totalling £5

a week by the end of the year could be expected to inject something like 5% per cent extra into the retail price index by the end of next year. While this in itself is limited, though not negligible, aggregation of inflation, it would become an engine of hyper-inflation only if those price increases became the basis of secondary cost of living payments during next year. The Government's best hope at present is that, during next winter's pay negotiations, employees will accept threshold payments made this year as partial payments in advance for increases in the cost of living since the previous agreement. If that hope is fulfilled, deferred and enlarged will flow from the Government's own contributions to the social compact, then there is a chance that a decisive and disastrous acceleration of cost inflation next year can be avoided. If, however, employees insist on disregarding threshold payments made during 1974 and, in addition, demand automatic cost of living adjustment next year on top of the main settlements which they expect next winter, then indeed inflation can only accelerate towards what in logic would be an infinite rate and in practice would destroy our political system.

Political protest

From Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton Sir, Bernard Levin's piece today (May 24) was even more ignorant and prejudiced than usual. He obviously fails to follow certain MPs' genuine political views and sees only that which suits him. With regard to myself I have made innumerable protests about the persecution of Jews, writers and others in the Soviet Union. If he studied the many early reports to be made by the extensive Operation Motorman which cleared the last of the IRA brigades, at this stage might harden rather than dissipate the support the strike has claimed.

Salary levels: a true scale of values

From Mrs Katharine Moore Sir, I have been reading with growing distaste the unfavourable comments on Mr Grimond's letter (May 20). Mr Grimond has actually voiced the views of many ordinary decent people who are grateful to him. His critics seem to have ignored his vital point: "the lack of any proper scale of values". Nobody wishes to deny the responsibilities undertaken by top business executives nor the taxes they have to pay but I wonder if any one of them would be willing to exchange their particular share of "strain, wear and tear" and their tax liabilities for the strain, wear and tear and tax freedom of, say, a head teacher, nurse or modern Irishman? While the commission certainly concluded that the divided school system in Quebec (with the basis of its separate language and culture, de facto language and race), played a significant part in perpetuating

Business in pursuit of personal enrichment is, and has been, socially valuable.

Business in pursuit of personal enrichment is, and has been, socially valuable. Those who succeed spectacularly in it are no more reprehensible than big pool winners. The reason for inflation is simple: it is this country, in common with most of the West, has adopted the policy of the caucus race in Alice in Wonderland: "all have won so all must have prizes". Letters like those of Mr Grimond make our capitalists of business all the more timorously eager to encourage the printing of monopoly money as the "danger" to satisfy confused ideas of social justice. And even Russia has not eliminated "speculators", merely downgraded them in terms of social approval thus rendering them, like prostitutes in our society, largely immune from taxation. Yours faithfully, JONATHAN GUINNESS, 51-53 Victoria Street, SW1, May 20.

Parliamentary drafting

From Mr T. G. Talbot, QC Sir, The Chairman of the Statute Law Society, Sir Desmond Heap (May 20), blames the draftsman of the Consumer Credit Bill for defining "land improvement company" by reference to section 7 of the Improvement of Land Act 1889 which, writes Sir Desmond, was repealed by the Improvement of Land Act 1959 Amendment Act 1925. Criticism of Parliamentary draftsmen is a popular pastime and the Chairman of the Statute Law Society is eminently entitled to indulge in it; but, before doing so, he might have looked up the amending Act of 1925, one of the shortest Acts in the Statute Book. Had he done so, he would have found that it did not repeal section 7 of the Act of 1889. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, T. G. TALBOT, Chairman of Committees' Office, House of Lords, May 21.

Sale of Church treasures

From Mr D. G. Steer Sir, In their narrowly reasoned letter of today (May 21) Dr J. N. Myres and his colleagues appear to regard the Church as a straying member of their own family of protectors, preservers and dispensers of artistic and historical objects. The Church cannot be compared to, say, the National Trust, as its constitution is the spreading and consolidation of the Christian religion, and if the disposal of secular possessions enable it to pursue its purposes it should act accordingly. To have funds to meet the salaries of disseminators of the Gospel, or to meet the cost of preserving or improving meeting places for congregations is far more important than keeping silver plate in a safe. What an anomaly it is that so much importance is placed on the possession of such inanimate objects while at the same time high spiritual and moral standards appear less necessary or desirable. Yours faithfully, D. G. STEER, 7 Laleham Court, Woking, Surrey, May 21.

Quiet traffic

From Mr J. K. Piggott Sir, I would like to point out to Dan Charles Fitzgerald-Lombard that it is already a legal requirement for motor vehicles that they should carry a device capable of giving "audible warning of approach". Hence his warning of approach of cyclists and pedestrians appears unjustified. Additionally, the heavy vehicles inevitably make a great deal of tyre noise, so if the whistle of tyres can be equated in terms of danger with the rumble of a diesel engine, all should be well. Yours faithfully, J. K. PIGGOTT, 10 Cranbury Road, Berkshire, May 21.

The right to work

From Mrs B. Large Sir, While admiring Mr Len Murray's recent courage in Northern Ireland in standing up for the right to work, I wonder if we may not look forward to seeing him leading a march of strike-breakers in England, where quite frequently trade unionists are threatened, reviled and spat on by pickets when they attempt to assert their own right to work. Yours faithfully, BINA LARGE, Vine Cottage, Diss, Norfolk, May 22.

Computers and privacy

From Professor P. J. H. King Sir, Marcel Berlins' article and the discussion in it by Paul Sighele (May 20) and Eric Willey (May 22) are timely in bringing this matter again to public attention. It happened that on the day on which the article appeared I was involved in a search group on the problems of using, in a "cooperative" way, distinct and different data bases, or data banks, which may have been set up quite independently using different technologies and computer equipment, under one name, moreover, that this work is being carried out under new arrangements for Government research consequent upon Lord Rothschild's recent recommendations. The problems of "cooperating" data banks are technically very interesting and I can well understand professional research and development staff wishing to work in this area. I have no evidence to suggest that such work, when completed, will be used for undesirable purposes, but it seems to illustrate how the natural urges of the scientific and engineering communities are rapidly creating tools over which a more adequate control will be required than at present exists. In its chapter on computers the Younger Report on Privacy put forward 10 principles which I would suggest should be taken as a basis for the regular independent "auditing" of computer based information systems and data banks. The development of the British Computer Society in recent years now provides a professional framework which could support such work. While some of the proposed legislation on these matters, such as the establishment of a "data bank registrar" seems to me to go too far and could be rapidly undermined by technological developments, the implementation of the more moderate proposals of the Younger Committee for the establishment of some form of standing commission are becoming overdue. Yours, etc, P. J. H. KING, Department of Computer Science, University of London, WC1.

pay rise for all

Professor H. Lydall Sir, It is easy to see the limitations of a "social compact" and the political capital out of its use to provide a painless solution to any social problem. But there is the slightest doubt that slanting approach to the settlement of social and economic conflicts only approach which offers respect of preserving democracy a period of rapid change. danger is, of course, that a nation of free bargaining and pressures will draw the nation down into chaos, and lead on inexorably to a dictatorship either of the right or left, in which free trade union political parties will be eliminated. Then, are we to do? The government tried to use the law to scribe a framework, and even incomes by statutory power; it is policy was a failure, because it is a challenge to our own social relations and institutions. We need to design new institutions which will find solutions to social ills without disruption and decay. major step forward in this project of innovation would be to recognize that the wage "leap" which is the cause of a large if our present tensions, is an act of our own making. The and employers to postpone a decision probably seems at the time an easy way out, and even a d of slowing down inflation. is a social disaster. It projects sing numbers of perfectly le people into the arms of whose primary aim is to destroy cial fabric. first rule which I would propose is that all wages and should be increased by a percentage rate of the same (this percentage increase should also to all pensions, benefits, allowances, means test limits, or forth, so that all these in- would increase, so far as prac- in equal proportionate nce, after tax. The size of this percentage increase should

Peace-keeping forces

From Mr B. J. Smyth-Tyrell Sir, The withdrawal of a contingent from the Middle East peace-keeping force combined with the relative success of the Kissinger negotiations, highlights once again the need to place UN peace-keeping forces on a more stable basis. The present hopeful situation would not have been possible to attain without amongst other things—the availability and general acceptance of a UN peace-keeping force, modest though it is. What an improvised force has made possible could have been achieved more rapidly and effectively by a permanent peace-keeping force. This development has always foundered through lack of unanimity amongst the major powers; there is reason to hope that the necessary degree of unanimity might be attainable at last. If the problem of

the Middle East is to be "settled"

it will require the presence of a UN peace-keeping force for a considerable period—if, for example, incidents such as we have seen as recently as last week are to be prevented. That these incidents did not wreck the peace-keeping negotiations is astonishing—we cannot hope to be as fortunate on all occasions. Can we not ask that in settling the problem of the Middle East negotiators shall do so in such a manner as will lead naturally to the establishment of a permanent peace-keeping force. The natural programme would be: 1. An ad hoc force (the practice since 1945). 2. A force made up of national units previously earmarked (already adopted by some nations). 3. Light standing forces operating in a fully armed world. Both stages 2 and 3 could be operated in similar skills, specifically under UN control. As available these units could also be used for disaster relief—armed conflict is as much a "disaster" as floods in Pakistan or famine in Ethiopia and the two functions require similar skills. Specific units should in any event be included in the light standing force. A force with such a disaster role is now generally recognized to be almost as urgently needed as a peace-keeping force. More and more nations are beginning to recognize that prestige is to be gained by helping the victims of such disasters. What is desperately lacking is a trained organization able to proceed at once to the scene of the disaster to direct, coordinate and administer activities on the spot, subject to local authority. None such exists at present and this has produced delay and waste on a scale which could so easily be avoided. I do not think that anyone denies, Sir, the need for such a force. When war breaks out in the Middle East or famine in Ethiopia, the most cynical governments press the alarm button and pray that some sort of fire engine, however ramshackle, will arrive. If this need so manifestly exists, can we not create the fire engine that everybody wants. The Middle East has, once again, proved the value of a fire engine and the need for a better one. Yours faithfully, B. J. SMYTH-TYRELL, Bonnetts, Capel, Surrey, May 20.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Lovell
for CONSTRUCTION

MONEY GROWS
RICK AND FAST
IN THE
Addersfield
Society

Small traders up arms over plan to post lists of food prices

High Clayton food retailers said yesterday they would support the Government's price-cutting plans until a parallel scheme to shopkeepers publicize prices is introduced.

Mr Alan Williams, secretary of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, outlined a scheme to food retailers post lists of prices for up to 80 goods next to shelves of the set and lowest prices being asked for the products elsewhere.

Williams said this would put retailers at an immediate disadvantage. They would be asked to advertise the fact that their chain store rivals were undercut them.

For example, an independent selling blended butter at a pound might have to post a price of 17p to 20p a pound. The independent would not explain that he was charging more, small retailers gave a uniquely local personal service.

Williams said that who met to have insufficient wage of their problems. He told him that it would be serious to post a price range without specifying sizes.

He also felt that it would be unwise to give a range of prices for processed goods without distinguishing between branded and own-label.

Mr Colin Callimore, chairman of the Retail and Wholesale Food Consortium, said: "You must tell the housewife about the trade, or nothing. It is no good giving the story."

Merger by two Wall St brokers sets the trend

From Frank Vogl Washington, May 24

Kidder, Peabody and Co has agreed in principle to take over Clark, Dodge and Co. Both companies are refusing to give details of the deal, but it is expected to be completed by late June.

Clark, Dodge is a well respected old brokerage firm with 24 branches. This deal falls into a trend of mergers in the United States securities industry that appears to be gathering momentum.

Two small companies with seats on the New York Stock Exchange, for example, announced yesterday their intention to merge. They are Phillips, Appel and Walden Inc and Pressman, Frohlich and Frost Inc.

The merger trend, in evidence for some four years, has gathered speed largely because of the long slump in markets and the awareness that life will get much tougher for medium-sized companies when freely negotiated commission rates come into force next April.

The volatility of bond market rates and the severe stock market falls have hit hard at the profitability of many securities companies. Several Wall Street experts believe a number of mergers are being engineered by the New York Stock Exchange in desperate efforts to prevent companies going under.

There is also widespread disillusionment. Many brokers say that because of inflation and the fact that investors have had a rough deal for too long, many one-time investors in shares may not return and the size and quality of the markets will decline.

This is reflected in the price of a seat on the NYSE—a recent sale was made at \$80,000 (£33,000) against a level of close to \$500,000 some six years ago.

Little relief for property seen in rents move

By Margaret Drummond

The property business spent yesterday digesting the implications of Thursday's government statement on business rents.

While clarification of the rent freeze, now to be lifted in March, 1976, would still place developers to had been active during the last two or three years in situation in which they could cover the increased costs of borrowings from current rent.

Furthermore, the property sector was expiring a new tax burden—the duties of which were yet unknown—to be imposed by the autumn, after Mr Reid's Budget marks the latest development.

Mr J. Linbourn, a Commercial Union director, yesterday stressed that his group's opposition to government legislation on the property market, strongly expressed in a recent statement to shareholders, had not changed. He claimed that under present controls some leaseholders were in a position to profit from the frozen rents at the expense of developers.

He did not envisage the large pension funds and institutions, who purchased some £900m of property last year, coming back into the market in a hurry.

It has been felt in some quarters that the institutions would purchase property from groups facing liquidity problems once the Government had clarified the situation.

Elsewhere there was some basis from which to value properties, although City analysts were suggesting that yields would rise from 6½ per cent to 8 or 9 per cent once the market became active again.

Loval Properties, reporting a fall in interim pre-tax profits from £605,000 to £251,000, made provision of £326,000 to cover future losses on current developments and announced that the group was reconsidering its policy of retaining completed developments in the light of rent controls and fiscal legislation.

UK shippers condemn low productivity at dockside

By Michael Bailey Shipping Correspondent

Productivity in Britain's ports is now so low that it takes up to three times as long to handle cargo and costs up to four times as much as in continental ports such as Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg, it was claimed by leading shipping lines yesterday.

London and Liverpool were the worst offenders, they said, and the main reasons were the Devlin settlement, inadequate pierwork incentives (still standard on the Continent) and the Jones/Aldington settlement, producing serious labour shortages.

The lines were answering recent charges of delays of six to eight weeks in shipping export cargoes. Except in the Australia trade, where extra ships were still being chartered, export delays were caused much more by poor port productivity than by lack of ship space, they affirmed.

More than 30 per cent of tea imports were now transhipped via Rotterdam to small British ports because this was quicker and cheaper than shipping direct to a large British port.

Continental lines were refusing to send their ships to British ports because the delays lost them money at current liner rates.

A leading line in the United Kingdom-Africa trade said general cargo cost £8 a ton to discharge in London compared with £2 in Rotterdam, and took twice as long. In the India/Pakistan trade, daily discharge rates of about 200 tons a day were reported in Liverpool and Avonmouth compared with 500 to 1,200 tons for the same cargo in north continental ports.

Asked if representations had been made to the Government, a spokesman at the London press briefing said the Government was aware of the ports situation but seemed more preoccupied with nationalizing the industry.

& C assets valued at nearly £1.3m

valuation of only £1.3m placed on the assets of the don and Country Securities at a creditors' meeting yesterday by Mr Arthur Clark, senior official receiver.

contrast, unsecured debts reckoned to amount to £3.6m preferential liabilities amounting for a further £73,000, the nominal value of the unsecured loan stock is the extent of the indicated it makes it almost certain there will be nothing available for ordinary shareholders.

banking and consumer interests of the group have taken over by the Bank of and the first national ice Corporation which is planning a partnership in consumer lending activities the Chase Manhattan Bank department said yesterday.

felt greater investment in sales handling systems was needed to reduce costs.

Dismay at index rises

Continued from page 1

to the underlying rate of inflation, it is probably an understatement, because several subsidies came into effect in the month, bringing officially induced reductions in the price of milk, eggs and butter.

When all the distorting factors are removed, the rate of inflation was between 1.5 and 2 per cent for the month. That is still a much higher figure than was customary last year, and suggests that most forecasts of a price rise in 1974 of between 1.5 and 2 per cent will turn out to be correct.

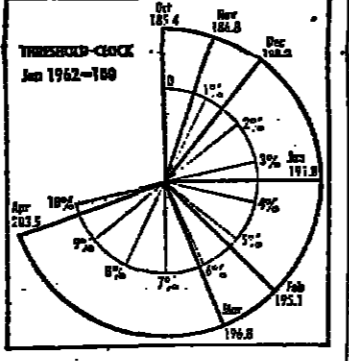
The effect of the Budget measures has only begun to come through. A wave of price increases for the nationalized industries is imminent. Both postal charges and rail fares are to be increased next month. The rise in electricity charges for domestic users became effective on May 1, but will affect electricity bills only as meters are read by August. The price of house coal will be raised on November 1.

The impact of those higher prices, combined with an exceptionally high underlying rate of inflation, will operate threshold agreements several more times. It is also likely to encourage other groups of workers, who have not as yet completed agreements, to incorporate them in pay demands.

The figure of seven million, widely quoted as the present coverage of the agreements, may be an underestimate. Although firms are obliged to register agreements with the Pay Board, they need to do so only when there is a principal increase in wage rates.

It is clear, therefore, that increases in wage costs will be general throughout industry. That will not cause an unstable upward explosion in prices, but it will aggravate inflation control and bite into profits.

Higher wages are already an important contributory element



CEGB can go ahead with oil-fired station

By Roger Vielvoxe Energy Correspondent

The Central Electricity Generating Board has been given government permission to complete the ordering of a £200m oil-fired power station at Littlebrook, Kent, to supply electricity to the South-east.

But at the same time the board has agreed to include the second stage of the Drax coal-fired station in Yorkshire in its capital building programme for 1974.

The inclusion of Drax follows strong pressure from the Department of Energy for a coal-fired station to be included in the board's long-range building plans.

The decision on Drax represents an enforced policy change for the CEGB which had wanted to restrict its 1974 capital programme to two oil-fired stations and two new nuclear projects.

The development of the second 2,000 megawatt stage of Drax at a cost of £250m is related to the long-term availability of indigenous coal supplies and the sinking of a new drift mine at Selby in Yorkshire. Drax B could absorb the 5 million ton production from Selby, but the CEGB makes any commitment to the new Selby supplies will not be needed to replace output from pits that are being exhausted and closed down.

The long-term future of the coal industry will not be known until the results of an investigation by the Department of Energy, the mining unions and the National Coal Board are published in July.

Mr Eric Pease, the Secretary of State for Energy, said in a written parliamentary answer yesterday that once the tripartite investigation was complete, he had every expectation that the NCB would proceed with the development of the Selby coalfield.

"In that event the CEGB have confirmed that they will include in their 1974 capital programme provision for the building of the second stage of Drax," he said.

Development of Drax B is certain to be at the expense of the 2,000 MW oil-fired station at Killingholme in Lincolnshire. There is little chance of excluding the 1320 MW station for Selby, near Plymouth, because this unit is needed to meet the growing demand for power in the South-west.

If the Government decides against the development of American nuclear technology it is unlikely that the CEGB would proceed with ordering two new nuclear plants in 1974. In this situation it is possible that Drax and Killingholme might both get the go-ahead, with the nuclear ordering programme restricted to a single station.

Littlebrook D was part of the 1973 capital programme and is under contract for the boilers was awarded to Clarke-Chapman-John Thompson in the autumn. The turbo-generator contract is expected to be awarded next week.

Minimum lending rate cut by ¼ pc

By Melynn Vesklahe

British interest rates continued their steady descent yesterday with a further ¼ percentage point cut in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate to 13 per cent.

The rate—13 per cent—was the fifth reduction this year in the MLR, which has now fallen in an unbroken progression from the peak 13½ per cent level set in August, 1973.

Although the latest fall appeared to have the general acquiescence of the Bank of England, there was growing apprehension in the City that sterling could be increasingly attractive to overseas bankers.

The pound slumped by more than 1½ cents against the dollar yesterday to \$2.4005. The effective devaluation rate of the pound against 10 key currencies (from December 1971 parities) deteriorated from 17.61 to 17.75 per cent.

The minimum lending rate is calculated by reference to the result of the weekly Treasury Bill tender, and is adjusted automatically. The average rate of discount on bills at yesterday's tender fell to 511.2274 from 511.4507 per cent the previous Friday, triggering the fall in the MLR.

This reduction follows the cut in base rates, from 12½ to 12 per cent, announced by most of the clearing banks this week (following the lead of Lloyds Bank 11 days earlier) and is in line with the recent easing in the City's wholesale money rates.

Against this background some discount houses would seem to have judged it appropriate to bid keenly for Treasury bills this week to improve the size of their holdings, and have consequently driven down the yield. Although the discount market has not been particularly short of funds in recent days, and the Bank of England has not had to help it by purchasing its Treasury bills, the small number of bills on offer at the recent weekly tenders has probably led to an overall decline in the level of the market's total holdings.

At the same time, if the houses can effect a general reduction in interest rates, they will bring down the cost of their own borrowed money and improve their already handsome margins on most of their other assets.

Tender details, page 18

Co-op will challenge Pay Board on 10p cut

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff

Co-operative employers and the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers are to challenge the Pay Board over rises for 129,000 shop workers. The board yesterday gave 251 Co-operative societies until June 11 to trim 10p a week off of the increases.

The order follows a test case last year in which the union won jump sums of £5 for 80,000 Co-operative workers which the employers had thought were frozen by the board. The board now wants this money paid back in deductions from a recent pay settlement giving rises of between 53 and 14 a week.

The Co-operative Employers' Association said it would protest to the Pay Board and ask to see Mr Foot, the Secretary of State for Employment, if necessary. The union will ask the minister not to confirm the order.

Mr Foot has yet to decide on a similar appeal made to him by 8,000 workers in the Cornish china clay industry. They received increases of more than £2.38 a week over five months of last year which were above the pay limits. The Pay Board is now saying this must be deducted from a new wage agreement.

Deputations saw ministers more than a month ago, but no decision has yet been made and the full rises are being paid.

Reprive and a £50,000 boost for BSC plant

By Ronald Kershaw

The British Steel Corporation has agreed not to close its Stockbridge rolling works, near Sheffield. Instead it will invest £50,000 in its modernization to meet a rising demand for springs.

Originally it was intended to move some of the plant to the corporation's Tinsley Park works. Mr Ernest Hampshire, works manager at Stockbridge, said last night that the Tinsley Park works would concentrate on producing the corporation's "paperlike" springs and Stockbridge would make conventional laminated springs.

Mr Hampshire added: "This is a big boost for Stockbridge. The men have done a great job by increasing output in spite of the closure plan. All our customers are pressing us for more springs and we are doing our utmost to engage more personnel in an endeavour to meet increased demand."

Pay threshold shock fails to upset market

On London stock markets business remained dull yesterday, in spite of two important new factors—the triggering of Phase 2 free threshold agreements and the Government's decision that business rents must remain frozen until May next year.

Property shares, on the view that the uncertainty over rents had now been removed, managed some gains, but the market as a whole showed no initial response to the threshold breach and its inflationary implications.

The FT ordinary index ended 1 point up at 285.2.

Investors' week, page 17

ly on materials

Government has initiated a designed to cut the significant savings in the £8,000m spent each year on materials handling costs. A survey is to be undertaken working party of the Department of Industry's materials handling (plant and technology).

switch to rail

representatives by four planning authorities the al Coal Board has changed its day to move 2,000 tons of new drift mine at Royston, hire, to local power station. The coal will now be by rail.

Japan industry plan

Japanese clothing industry is to ask the Government to restrict clothing imports to prevent further erosion of the domestic market, and the country's toping company Kanebo, is being warned yarns output 1 per cent from July in home, a three-year textiles ment has been reached the United States to ve existing export arrange-

osit on imports

An Israeli Government has a decision of most im- ports by imposing a 20 per cent interest-free one-year on overseas goods carry- duty of more than 10 per

How the markets moved

The Times index : 114.74 - 0.04
F.T. index : 289.2 + 1.0

Rises	Falls
Amar	11p to 98p
Anglo-Thal	8p to 250p
Seaborn Grp	2p to 217p
Eng Prop	10p to 50p
Foremaster	12½p to 57½p
Poster, H.	10p to 130p
Bannerson	10p to 340p
Anglo Amer in	30p to 550p
Sass Charr'g'n	1p to 83p
Regional	4p to 185p
Novel	4p to 185p
Brit-N Sugar	25 p to 315p
Broken Hill	20p to 600p
Decca	4p to 25p
Lloyds Bank	3p to 198p
Lucas Inds	2p to 77p
Rank Org 'A'	5p to 240p
Regional	5p to 50p
Rockwell Grp	2p to 57p
Seatrust	5p to 255p
Stanley, B.	6p to 275p
Eldridge S'ld	3p to 11p
Grosvet	1p to 330p
GUS 'A'	2p to 131p
Invid	4p to 21p
MTM Hldgs	12p to 163p
Northeast Ex	15p to 280p
Reed Int	5p to 21p

Equities saw little active trading. Gilt-edged reports showed little overall change.

Sterling dropped 120 points to \$2.4005. The effective devaluation rate was 17.75 per cent. Gold rose \$3 to \$162.

Commodities: Metal prices improved. Copper gained £23 to £27.50 a ton; zinc, £45.50; lead, £12.50; tin, £45.50; silver 4p. Coffee and sugar futures lost ground, but sugar again advanced. Reuters index was 2.8 up at 1,310.5.

Reports, page 18

Whitehall hints at developing canals for freight

A clear indication that the Government is considering the expansion of inland waterways, particularly for freight purposes and transporting water supplies, was given yesterday by Mr Howell, Minister of State for the Environment.

"We ought not to be closing down canals," he said in the House of Commons. "We ought to be opening up more canals and building new ones."

Mr Howell's statement will be widely welcomed by those who have for many years advocated the economic and environmental advantages of using the waterways for commercial as well as recreational purposes.

Although they have repeatedly pointed to the extensive use made of waterways on the Continent, in the United States and in the Soviet Union, their arguments have until now fallen on deaf ears.

In a report published last month the Inland Waterways Association complained that successive governments had done nothing to initiate development in inland shipping. Mr Howell said Mr Mulley, Minister of Transport, was giving the report urgent attention.

Parliamentary Report page 5

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Parliamentary Report page 5

Winn Industries Limited

INCREASED PROFITS
INCREASED DIVIDEND

"New management structure, coupled with further rationalisation and despite industrial restrictions has", says Chairman George Howard, "resulted in increased profits and dividend, while our sights remain set on further growth and expansion."

	1973	1972
	£000	£000
Turnover	13,879	13,029
Profit before Tax	679	604
Profit attributable to members*	307	368
Dividend (Gross %)	15½	14½

* After increased tax charge.

Copies of report and accounts are obtainable from The Secretary, 79 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 0EQ.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

If you want to insure your life, or to insure your income in case you should be laid up sick for a period, the chances are that you will be accepted at normal rates. Of course, where the amount to be insured is quite high, the insurance company, as a precaution, may ask you to undergo a medical examination—at its expense. Very few people get turned down altogether.

often an exclusion of claims resulting from any pre-existing physical defect, infirmity, or disease, or any recurring illness—words to that effect. And this exclusion is likely to apply not only to those who have paid the premiums, but also to close relations at home whose illness could result in the holiday being cancelled, which would mean a claim for loss of deposits, etc.

panies, has been terms of cost rather than the condition of the insurance—partly because the average policyholder does not want to spend much money on insurance. But also, and as unlikely to have to make a claim, and as cost is kept low and many situations, the individual is deprived of making a claim.

Investing in stamps

One way to lick inflation

The flight from money in the last two years has been no fantasy. Investors have become increasingly disenchanted with equity and cash investments, and have sought alternative homes for their funds.



John Webb, managing director of Stanley Gibbons.

merely being a "cold, calculating investor." Mr Webb gives fair warning that the organization is also out to make converts of all investors. Alternatively, existing collectors may realize that the fruits of their hobby have shown more appreciation than their conventional investments and gradually switch the emphasis more towards stamps.

major collection which was lost in a plane crash contributed to their scarcity value. The reverse is that whereas certain varieties of stamps fall out of favour, the price or value merely holds steady over a period of years.

estimated increase in the 30 months in excess of 30 per cent. There are no guarantee turn sales prices offered by Gibbons—although stamps in investment collection effect may represent Gibb reserve stock as far as collectors are concerned. Company will take as little as £500 for many investments which would probably buy one—but Mr Webb much prefers the "allow room" that an investment sum offers.

Taxation: Readers ask

Aggregation aggravation

This end-of-the-month round up of readers' queries comprises a hotchpotch of subjects arising from my articles many weeks back on domicile and maintenance up to the current series on capital gains tax.

for the period during which she lived in England as a resident with a visa permitting her to work in England for a limited length of time? Although I sought the best advice I could find on my tax position before I married, my accountants wrote me only last week that the UK Revenue will now consider, by the length and nature of my stay in this country, that I became both resident and ordinarily resident when I came to England as a tourist in the summer of 1970.

a reader writes: "If a capital gain, when added to income for the year, brings the total into the higher rates or investment income surcharge range, is it (the capital gain) charged to tax at basic or higher rates?"

income of £500 and the minimum personal allowance of £625, his taxable income is £3,875 which is chargeable to tax at the basic rate of 33 per cent. If he makes a gain of £800 during the year, he will be taxed in one of two ways. The maximum he can be taxed upon to pay is £800 at 33 per cent, and is £240. Alternatively one half of the gain (£400) can be treated as income, thus increasing his taxable income from £3,875 to a notional figure of £4,275.

Aggregation of children's income has not been included in the recent Finance Bill but one assumes it will rear its ugly head in the next one. If it does become law then, in the circumstances outlined by the reader, I am afraid that divorced wife will have to pay tax on the children's maintenance. She should be able to claim the child allowance, but this will by no means extinguish the liability. It is to be hoped that the Chancellor will modify the aggregation rule for divorced and separated wives before it becomes law.

On the subject of domicile a reader asks: "Is it possible for a foreign woman to be taxed retroactively on world income?"

It is a single taxpayer during the present tax year, 1974/75, has earnings of £4,000, investment

of £500 and the minimum personal allowance of £625, his taxable income is £3,875 which is chargeable to tax at the basic rate of 33 per cent. If he makes a gain of £800 during the year, he will be taxed in one of two ways. The maximum he can be taxed upon to pay is £800 at 33 per cent, and is £240. Alternatively one half of the gain (£400) can be treated as income, thus increasing his taxable income from £3,875 to a notional figure of £4,275.

Pensions

Which way will Mrs Castle turn?

As we start the third round of the national pensions planning game, it is not only the politicians who ought to have learnt from the mistakes of the past: The public, too, should now realize the importance of reacting fast and vigorously to proposals put forward.

advance to meet the eventual pensions. Crossman would have abandoned the latter principle, and paid for accelerated benefits solely out of current contribution income. In doing so, he lost a vital discipline which would have prevented him from writing out inflated cheques, post-dated to next century, to be met by the contributors of the day.

Eric Brunel

Insurance

Holidaying with an easy mind

By making the right arrangements in advance, most people visiting another EEC country can ensure that hospital or medical treatment will be provided on the same basis as for the nationals of that country—which generally means free or at a modest cost.

noticeable fall-off in demand for holiday insurance. After all, it covers so much more than medical and hospital costs—such as loss of deposit if one is prevented from taking the holiday as planned, the cost of extra hotel accommodation in the event of an accident or illness, increased cost of return travel, as well, of course, as covering all one's luggage on "all risks" terms.

the insurers to the operators. But, for the insurance companies involved, administrative expenses can be quite low when insurance is sold on this basis.

It may incorporate an exclusion clause for personal accidents, medical and cancellation claims arising from death or disablement due to anything which has needed medical attention during the past three years, or some shorter period.

Performance

Extending one's living standards

The exceptional state of the property market has created something of a boom in home extensions. Many families who have outgrown their existing space have chosen to add an extra room rather than face the difficulties of moving house.

Eric Brunel

Patricia

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES DIVIDEND The Board of the Bank of New South Wales in Sydney today declared an interim dividend of 7%, being 14 cents per share, payable on 19th July.

CLYDESDALE BANK INTEREST RATES Clydesdale Bank Limited announces that with effect from 24th May, 1974 its BASE RATE FOR LENDING is being reduced from 12½% per annum to 12% per annum.

John Drummond

Eric Brunel

Patricia

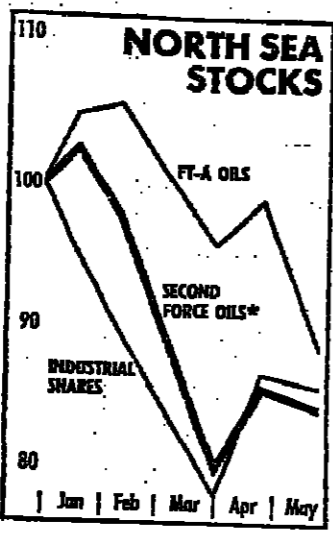
EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Investor's week thresholds • North Sea oil stocks

significantly, the tone for the week in ordinary shares was muted in first dealings on Monday morning, when the FT 100 slipped back below the 100 level—albeit only marginally. If none of the subsequent falls were of particular note in itself, there were a number of bearish factors and to justify a much larger drop than the aggregate drop of 11.6 points on the week to 92.00. The company results of groups of the likes of Courtauld and ICI left a depression on either the individual shares or the market generally.

Property shares were initially weak in the wake of the troubles of the Lyon and Stern groups. Thursday afternoon, the Government had announced its intention to continue the commercial rent freeze. It was hardly news for a troubled sector, but clearing the air it did help properties to improve slightly yesterday. Equities as a whole were affected by the news of interventionist measures, hinted at by Mr Benn. Additionally, there was raised speculation about an early general election.

If more immediate concerns were, are threshold agreements. These will apparently lead to some seven million shares getting an extra 120p each, adding over £400m to the company's value. They are likely to be a dominant market point at week, since they add a new twist to the inflationary spiral.



* Associated Newspapers, Beaverbrook Newspapers, Berry Wiggins, Carlisle, Capel & Leonard, Cawoods, Coalite and Chemical, Imperial Continental Gas, National Carbonising, Oil Exploration, Premier Consolidated, Offshore, Thomson Organisation, Tricentrol, Ultramar, (Compiled by Rowe Rudd & Co, stockbrokers)

needed benefits to the balance of payments and possibly to jeopardize British industry's overseas investments.

What analysts believe this means in simple terms is that, at the end of the day, oil companies' profitability per barrel from the North Sea will not differ drastically from previous estimates. The reason for this is that, although the incidence of taxation will rise sharply, it will apply to a posted price of around \$11 a barrel against the earlier consensus of around \$1.50 then the impact on second force stocks would still be very considerable.

This impact is most marked and easily quantifiable in the case of Thomson Organisation and Tricentrol, both of which have proven reserves in the North Sea. Stockbrokers Rowe Rudd estimate that the Piper field alone could treble Thomson's historic earnings by 1976 and Wood, Mackenzie, one of the leading firms of North Sea brokers, supports an estimate of this order.

Tricentrol is the other case where there are good proven reserves, in the shape of the Thistle field interest and Rowe Rudd estimate that this again could treble Tricentrol's historic earnings from around 1976.

A balanced North Sea portfolio should also probably include a holding in "pure" North Sea situation like Oil Exploration and Premier Consolidated. Although they have little by way of proven reserves yet, they have wide exposure to North Sea exploration and good cash flow to finance it. Cawoods and National Carbonising both have significant stakes in the highly promising 3/8 Ninian field and, although Nat Carb does not have the sound balance sheet Cawoods does, many analysts favour it as a speculative situation.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Sluggish overseas market help to flatten Ever Ready performance

By Ashley Druker

Modest growth at home and none overseas helped to depress the opening results of Ever Ready Co (Holdings), accentuated for the full year to March 2 with a full-time turnover much lower than expected.

The market responded with a fall of 4p to 85p in the share price.

The implications after the first-half were evidently for a fairly flat performance for the rest of the year, particularly with the cost squeeze catching up rapidly. In the event, taxable profits (against earlier hopes of comfortably over £14m) increased under 6 per cent to £12.85m on turnover 25 per cent better at £89.18m. After six months profits were 23 per cent ahead on the back of a 40 per cent sales gain.

Interest charges inevitably

took their toll, up almost £1m from £54,000 to £1.81m (and against a £733,000 jump at half-time) on trading profit raised from £13.02m to £14.66m.

United Kingdom companies contributed £8.98m against £7.6m to turnover, but the overseas sector barely moved from £5.36m to £5.69m. A further, and perhaps more important factor, though not estimated, is the sharply higher zinc and raw material costs, which a 41 per cent price rise on United Kingdom dry batteries in June was hardly likely to cover.

Net profit, after tax up from £2.76m to £3.72m, dropped from £6.98m to £6.57m, while the "attributable" fell from £6.31m to £5.59m. Earnings a share came out at 10.34p compared with 12.26p. The total dividend for year is raised from 4.2p to 4.32p.



Mr Lawrence Orchard, chairman of Eveready Holdings: stronger competition in the batteries market.

Liquifin in renewed fight for Ronson

After a year-long losing battle to gain control of the Ronson Corporation, the cigarette lighter and appliances group, the Liechtenstein-based Liquifin group is still undismayed, and intends to conduct a proxy fight to gain six seats on Ronson's seven-man board. This is to take place on June 13 at Ronson's annual meeting.

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission is studying the proposal and must clear it before a statement can be sent to shareholders. This leaves little time for Liquifin to get results. Earlier this month, acceptances of Liquifin's offer showed that it had 36 per cent of Ronson's equity.

If its candidates are elected to the board, Liquifin wants to consider disposing of any unprofitable, or marginally unprofitable, Ronson operations. Also, it will consider expanding the business into new fields, such as camping equipment and petrochemical, in which Liquifin is engaged.

The Ronson board apparently got wind of the new tactics planned by Liquifin. Mr Louis Aronson, the group's president, in a statement issued with the notice convening the annual meeting, warned shareholders that there might well be a proxy fight with Liquifin.

Selection Trust and Amari confirm talks

The recurrent rumours that Selection Trust would bid for the Amari aluminium and steel stockholding group were vindicated last night when it was announced that the two groups were engaged in talks which could lead to a cash offer of 110p a share, valuing Amari at £3.2m.

In February last year, Selection Trust, the London-based international mining finance house, took an 11 per cent stake in Amari for £360,000 by subscribing for 300,000 shares at 120p each. In addition, ST made available up to £500,000 of demand by way of 73 per cent convertible loan notes. Through buying in the last 15 months, and by partial conversion of the loan notes, the ST stake has risen to 18 per cent of the Amari capital.

In December, Amari forecast that pretax profits for the year

to March 31, 1974, would rise from £435,000 to £650,000 with recent acquisitions making their financial contributions. The previous year, the stockholding and metal dealing companies brought in 89 per cent of the £43m turnover but profits were split equally between these activities and engineering.

This is not the first time that Amari has been involved in bid negotiations. In 1970, an American group, Strick Inc, made an agreed offer of 62p a share but this was later dropped.

Selection Trust's major assets include an 11.8 per cent stake in Amax, the United States mining group, Coe Consolidated African Selection Trust where the holding is 38 per cent and 14.3 per cent of the Tsamebe Corporation, the South African base metal group.

Slater leaves Australia

By David Mott

Slater Walker Securities has decided to withdraw from Australia. The reasons given are an increasingly nationalistic attitude to foreign investors by the Australian authorities and what a spokesman described as a "rough ride" with their companies there.

But underlying the move is SWS's current policy of liquidating unsatisfactory foreign assets which has seen the company selling holdings in America

Scotia replies to allegation

Shareholders in Scotia Investments will be sent a board circular refuting charges of "blatant fraud" over the group's leasing of the Normandie Hotel from a private company controlled by Scotia directors made in a recent anonymous circular. Meanwhile next Tuesday's planned extraordinary general meeting called to approve the deal is postponed, as requested earlier this week, by 10p, which controls around 9 per cent of Scotia shares.

Brown Bros paid 'too much' for stake in Henlys

Mr E. Spearing, the deputy chief executive of Brown Brothers, told yesterday's annual meeting that the £6.75m price paid for the group's 25 per cent stake in Henlys was too much, although the board was advised at the time that the price was right for the purposes it had in mind.

However, Mr Dennis Blake, the chief executive, defended the decision. He was asked by a shareholder if he thought the cost was really worth it, but

although the market value of the stake is now worth only about £2m, he considers that "pound for pound it is a sound investment".

Mr Spearing was asked about the group's relations with its bankers, and said that these were first class, and the group itself was not in trouble.

Dana Corp of the United States holds about 20 per cent of the group's shares and Mr Blake said no trading agreement had been established, although informal contacts had taken place.

North Sea oil investment was a straightforward business and recent developments, financial and financial, appear to have heaped confusion upon confusion. This is reflected in a stock market's disorientation with many "second force" North Sea stocks since the general election in February.

The investor should not take flight too quickly however. A likely scenario for North Sea oil profitability is beginning to emerge from the mists of uncertainty and its most salient feature still is of a handsome earnings boost for certain oil line stocks.

Unfortunately the Department of Energy Brown Book's week cast little light on the rate of production the Government will ultimately allow in the North Sea, given the need to optimize the national energy equation and a balance of payments benefit.

Conservatism appears to be the tenor of official thinking, and this could limit the initial impact on prospecting company profitability.

The other crucial political question which remains unanswered is the form and extent of Government participation in exploitation of North Sea reserves. The Department of Energy should be presenting an official blueprint for this within three months.

This will almost certainly include all the appearances of a very radical document but beneath the formula may lie just a variation of the present Government-oil industry pact. The Government "take" in taxes, royalties and "rent", will be heavy but not serious enough to drive prospecting companies away from North Sea, to delay much

SLATER WALKER

North American Trust

The Slater, Walker North American Trust is a new unit trust whose objective is to achieve maximum capital growth by investing exclusively in North American stocks and shares.

The Trust has been formed so that British investors can benefit from the fundamental strength of the United States and Canadian economies, and from Slater, Walker's investment expertise in London, New York and Toronto.

Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Growth and Specialist Funds (progress this year and last three years). Unitholder Index: 1,476.3, fall from January 1, 1974, 5.4.

WITH	A	B	C	D
orn Prof Assus	11.1	-	-	-
man	10.0	24.2	-	-
ds Capital	9.3	3.1	-	-
Cap Acc	6.5	0.8	-	-
e Growth	5.6	-27.9	-	-
G Magnum	2.6	41.0	-	-
ton	2.4	-5.7	-	-
G Compound	1.7	31.5	-	-
r Walker Acc	1.4	21.2	-	-
h Life Cap	0.0	-6.9	-	-
ton Account	-0.3	21.1	-	-
l Cap Gr	-0.5	20.8	-	-
al Sits	-1.0	-2.1	-	-
r Walker Assets	-1.2	38.2	-	-
ro 2nd Smaller	-1.4	-	-	-
s House	-2.1	-	-	-
ppportunity	-2.1	9.6	-	-
rn Rec	-2.1	-	-	-
Capital	-2.6	-	-	-
Priv Inv	-2.6	-	-	-
r Walker Prof	-2.8	-9.7	-	-
ourt Equity	-2.8	4.9	-	-
ros Rec	-3.4	62.7	-	-
G Recovery	-3.4	19.7	-	-
C Unit Trust	-3.7	19.7	-	-
r Walker Gr	-4.7	1.4	-	-
Compound	-5.1	3.2	-	-
Capital	-5.1	1.6	-	-
olker Stat	-5.0	-	-	-
ro Acc	-5.0	-	-	-
G Special	-5.4	25.2	-	-
rd Growth	-6.5	-13.8	-	-
ic Prog	-7.0	-5.3	-	-
ic Rec	-7.0	-10.7	-	-
Capital	-7.0	-	-	-
on Grout Cap	-7.3	2.7	-	-
ourt Smaller	-7.3	-	-	-
ic Perf	-7.3	-5.2	-	-
West Capital	-7.6	-11.5	-	-
erns Part	-7.6	28.3	-	-
P Ebor Cap Acc	-8.8	-8.8	-	-
uard Gr	-8.9	-20.3	-	-
er Cap	-8.9	-29.2	-	-
P Ebor Sel Gr	-9.1	-21.5	-	-
all Nat & Com	-9.1	-4.2	-	-
P Scotgrowth	-10.0	-	-	-
ro Smaller Cos	-10.7	-16.0	-	-
all Cap	-10.7	-21.7	-	-
holders	-10.7	26.6	-	-
P Scotfunds	-10.7	-	-	-
P Conv	-10.5	-19.2	-	-
P Capital	-11.4	-	-	-
on Growth	-11.5	-1.8	-	-
on Gr Acc	-11.5	-13.0	-	-
us Growth	-11.8	-7.7	-	-
et Growth	-14.8	-26.3	-	-
ollo Can	-15.0	-11.7	-	-
vest Perf	-15.7	15.9	-	-
Nat Gr	-16.1	-	-	-
M Growth	-20.4	-17.8	-	-
ent Growth	-20.6	-42.8	-	-
rowth	-23.5	-22.9	-	-

The United States and Canada have a fundamental economic strength unparalleled in the world. This strength is based not only on an almost total self-sufficiency in raw materials, energy and foodstuffs but also an economic, political and technological ability to exploit these natural resources to the full.

Within this total economy, growth and asset situations continually occur, and the policy of the Slater, Walker North American Trust will be to identify and invest in those companies which are considered to offer good prospects of capital appreciation. The Slater, Walker investment management team in London will be able to draw upon the expertise and local knowledge of Slater, Walker's offices in New York and Toronto.

The Trust will make use of back-to-back loans where appropriate, and the investment policy will be flexible.

Slater, Walker's record in managing growth-orientated unit trusts (Slater, Walker were elected 'Managers of the Year' by the Observer and Daily Express in both the 1971 bull market and the 1973 bear market), coupled with the potential advantages of investment in the United States and Canada, indicate that in the long term the North American Trust should prove to be a sound investment.

Investors should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

For this initial offer, units in the Slater, Walker North American Trust are priced at 25p each. The estimated initial gross yield is 2.50%. The minimum investment is 1,000 units, which cost £250.

Interested investors should fill in the coupon, or telephone their orders to 01-600 4747.

This offer closes at 5.00 pm on Monday, 3rd June, 1974.

GENERAL INFORMATION THE TRUST is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and constituted by a Trust Deed dated 16th May, 1974.

APPLICATIONS for units should be made on the form provided or by telephone to 01-600 4747. Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates will be sent within 42 days of receipt of your order.

Parents or legal guardians may purchase on behalf of minors and have the account designated.

THE OFFER PRICE includes an initial charge of 5%. INCOME The estimated gross yield on the portfolio is 2.50%. The Trust will make distributions of income on 15th January and 15th June each year. Applicants to this offer will receive their first distribution due on 15th January 1975. A half-yearly charge of 1.75% (plus VAT) per £100 of the capital value of the Trust is deducted from the Trust's income to defray expenses including the Trustee's fees.

REPURCHASE You can cash-in your units at any time by telephoning or writing to the Managers, who will immediately buy back the units at the bid price then ruling.

COMMISSIONS OF 1% out of the initial service charge of 5% will be paid to authorised agents.

Managers: Slater, Walker Trust Management Ltd, Leith House, 47-57, Grecham Street, London EC4A 3EP. Tel: 01-600 4747. (Members of the Association of Unit Trust Managers.) Directors: J. S. Stone, F.C.S., Chairman; J. A. Nichols (Deputy Chairman); B. Banks (Managing); E. J. Farrell (Deputy Managing); A. T. Maitland, A.C.A.

Trustee: National Westminster Bank Limited. A wider-range Trustee Security.

Not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Offer of units at 25p each in the Slater, Walker North American Trust until 3rd June, 1974.

After this date units will be available at the price then ruling.

To: NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK LTD., NEW ISSUES DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 79, DRAPERS GDNs., 12 THROGMORTON AVE., LONDON EC2P 2BD.

I/We hereby apply for FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Slater, Walker North American Trust units at 25p each. (Minimum holding 1,000 units and multiples of 50 thereafter).

Reference number

£ l p Certificate number /9

Remittance is enclosed payable to Slater, Walker Trust Management Ltd. T.M.

I/We declare that I am/we are not resident outside the Scheduled Territories (as defined in the Bank of England's Notice E.C.25) and that I am/we are not acquiring the units as the nominee(s) of any person(s) resident outside these Territories. If you are unable to make this declaration please consult your bank, stockbroker or solicitor in the U.K.

Signature(s) Date

Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates will be sent within 42 days of receipt of your order. Joint applicants must all sign and attach names and addresses separately.

PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK LETTERS—THE CERTIFICATE WILL BE PREPARED FROM THIS FORM.

TITLE	FULL FORENAMES	SURNAME
HOUSE NO. AND STREET		
TOWN		COUNTY/POSTAL CODE

REMITTANCE REQUIRED	1,000 units £250	2,000 units £500	4,000 units £1,000	10,000 units £2,500
	1,000 units £250	2,000 units £500	4,000 units £1,000	10,000 units £2,500

Slater, Walker Trust Management Limited, Registered in London, Number 895166.
Registered office: 30 St. Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8DA.

Slater Walker North American Trust

For Really Discerning Drinkers

HIGH & DRY

Really Dry Gin



London and Regional Market rices

Dull start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 24 Dealings End, June 7 Contingency, June 10 Settlement Day, June 18
 † Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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 Permanent of Leicester Temperance Building Society)

Stock	Price	Chgs	Div	Yield	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970
UTILITIES FUNDS									
British Gas	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Electricity	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Water	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL									
British Steel	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Petroleum	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Airways	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN									
Canada	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Japan	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
India	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
LOCAL AUTHORITIES									
London	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Manchester	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
FOREIGN STOCKS									
Aluminium	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Banking	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Chemicals	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS									
Bank of America	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Bank of London	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
BEVERIES AND DISTILLERS									
Guinness	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Heavenly Bodies	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
FINANCIAL TRUSTS									
Bank of India	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
Bank of China	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
SHIPPING									
British Overseas Airways	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Airways	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
MINES									
British Coal	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Steel	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
MISCELLANEOUS									
British Airways	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Petroleum	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
REGIONALS									
British Airways	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
British Petroleum	100	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100

MARKET REPORTS

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Table with multiple columns listing various financial units, their prices, and other market data. Includes sections for Authorized Unit Trusts, Insurance, and Offshore Funds.

Galacher disappoints but in semi-final

Bernard Galacher was the first to play his way into the semi-final of the Piccadilly medal play, match-play tournament at Finham Park, Corvay, when he defeated Roddy Carpy four shots.

Against Galacher, however, Carr dropped two holes in the first four holes and then more at the sixth where he teed into the left side of the fairway under his branches of trees.

Though he scored well all day, Galacher's two strokes ahead of Peter Croker and Mike Croker after he had hit the ball so well against Brian Hagan in the morning.

It's not a shot which comes naturally to me," he explained. Against Croker, he had been stalling, he felt, with the ball too far forward at the address and with the face of his club too open.

Alleen Wilson (Haggs Castle) and Kate Lackie (Montrose) reached the final of the Scottish women's golf championship at Ninewells, Perth.

Dr Wilson opened a lead of six holes in the semi-final on Connie Loggan (Gullane), whom she beat in the semi-final last year, but lost to her by a narrow margin before setting for victory by two and one.

Motor racing: Lauda the fastest ever but Peterson is champion's tip

Monte Carlo, May 24. Niki Lauda continued his domination of practice for Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix this morning.

Stewart's former Elf Tyrrell team are making their best showing in this year's Desperito and Jody Scheckter shared the third fastest time of 1min 27.1sec with BRM's Jean-Pierre Beltoise.

Jackie Stewart, the driver who was fastest in practice here last year, walked round the circuit during today's breakfast time practice making a close study of driving techniques and afterwards he spoke highly of Lauda's performance in the highly-competitive race.

World skating titles to be held in Japan

Tokyo, May 24.—The 1977 world figure skating championships will be held in Japan. Japan will be the first Asian country to host the championship since they started in 1896, in Lehngrad.

Cycling: Track for world championships cannot be used

Geneva, May 24.—Canada has advised the International Cycling Union here that the Olympic track in Montreal will not be ready in time for the world championships between August 14 and 24.

Clark in hospital

Johnny Clark, the British and European bantamweight champion, has entered hospital with an infected hand and will be out of boxing for three months.

Correction

The winner of the Kent women's spring jump championship last Sunday was Miss Dawn Dennis and not Miss B. Payne, as stated in an agency report on Monday morning.

Miss Irvin repeats her victory of 1967

By Peter Ryde

Ann Irvin, aristocratic women's golf champion, is digging in at the top. To this title won last year she has added the Lancashire and yesterday at Sunningdale, the English.

Too many holes were lost rather than to make it a great final, but it was certainly a good match. She lost only one hole to the end, as Mrs Thornhill kept coming at her opponent and refusing to give in after losing the initiative.

Fourth round: D. Hush North Berwick, 74, beat P. I. Croker, 75. P. A. Oosterhuis (Racing Harbour), 70, beat R. G. Croker (Sutton), 71. R. G. Croker (Sutton), 71, beat C. A. Clark (Sunningdale), 70. B. G. O. Huzar (Cambridge Park), 70, beat G. A. Cavill (Pleasance), 75.

Miss Irvin was in charge from the start against Mrs Hagan, building an early lead in three holes in par figures. She was out in 37 and went further ahead at the 15th, but she had some trouble in the 16th and 17th holes where she teed into the trees.

Miss McKenna favourite for Irish title

The final of the Irish women's golf championship at Lahinch, Co. Clare, today will be contested by Miss McKenna and Vivienne Singleton.

Yachting: Third victory for Thomas against erratic opposition

Chartreuse, the One Ton boat owned by Ronald Ducker and Franklyn Ratsey-Woodroffe, sailed for another impressive victory today in the Lever Regatta.

Yachting: Broome reaches top form at perfect moment

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Paddy Broome, who will defend his world show jumping title at Hickstead in July, is coming into form at the time when it matters most.

Yachting: Leeds release Ashton

Eric Ashton, the Leeds Rugby League coach, has been released by the club after completing one year of a three-year contract.



Miss Irvin driving off at the tenth hole yesterday.

Mrs Briggs keeps title

Andrey Briggs, the holder, won the Welsh women's golf championship for the fourth time in five years at Ashburham yesterday.

Impression of the match was the better driving of Mrs Thornhill, who on the 14th did it see her miss the fairway and then she escaped with a half in six which her opponent should not have allowed her.

SEMIFINAL ROUND: Mrs L. Croker (Leatherhead), 74, beat Mrs M. A. C. Thomas (Lahinch), 73. Mrs M. A. C. Thomas (Lahinch), 73, beat Mrs M. A. C. Thomas (Lahinch), 73. Mrs M. A. C. Thomas (Lahinch), 73, beat Mrs M. A. C. Thomas (Lahinch), 73.

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Nastase the top seed

Roma, May 24.—Ilie Nastase, of Romania, and Christine Evert, of the United States, are top-seeded for the singles events in the Italian open tennis championships which start here tomorrow.

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Yachting: Leeds release Ashton

Eric Ashton, the Leeds Rugby League coach, has been released by the club after completing one year of a three-year contract.

Yachting: Broome reaches top form at perfect moment

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Paddy Broome, who will defend his world show jumping title at Hickstead in July, is coming into form at the time when it matters most.

SPORT

Stubborn young man helps to deny Leicestershire victory

John Woodcock, Leicestershire's first batsman, was the only one to survive for more than an hour before being dismissed by Devonshire's Miller...



Hardie: an historic innings of his sort.

Four memorable singles by Hardie in 142 minutes

By Peter Marson. CHELMSFORD, Hampshire (18pts) Essex (2) by an innings and 16 runs...

Boxing Finnega adds a touch of culture

From Neil Allen. Boxing Correspondent. Paris, May 24. John Stracey and Kevin Finnegan, respectively the British welterweight and middleweight champions...

French racing Storms make Prix du Cadran real test

From Pierre Guillot. French Racing Correspondent. Paris, May 24. Heavy storms during racing on Thursday and again this morning...

Rugby Union Lions face a stiff test in province side match

Port Elizabeth, May 24.—The British Lions Rugby Union team face the stiffest opposition of their tour...

Football Youngsters ask some nagging questions

By Rex Bellamy. Tennis Correspondent. Virginia Wade, of Kent, three times champion, will play Julie Heldman...

Wind, rain and one more law for the Indians

Alan Gibson. Northamptonshire v Warwickshire. There was a mild flurry of excitement in the middle of the afternoon...

Gifford fails to utilize a drying pitch at the Oval

Stewart Gifford battled through the final 70 minutes to earn Surrey a draw against Worcestershire at the Oval...

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Football Sir Stanley Rous accused of dividing FIFA

Rio de Janeiro, May 24.—The vice-president of the Brazilian Football Confederation, Sylvio Pacheco, has accused Sir Stanley Rous, president of the International Football Federation (FIFA)...

Surrey v Glamorgan

Table with columns for batsmen, runs, and bowlers for Surrey v Glamorgan.

Surrey v Worcester

Table with columns for batsmen, runs, and bowlers for Surrey v Worcester.

Gloucester v Middlesex

Table with columns for batsmen, runs, and bowlers for Gloucester v Middlesex.

Sussex v Somerset

Table with columns for batsmen, runs, and bowlers for Sussex v Somerset.

County championship

Table with columns for county, runs, and wickets for the County Championship.

Today's cricket

Table listing today's cricket matches and their times.

County championship

Table with columns for county, runs, and wickets for the County Championship.

County championship

Table with columns for county, runs, and wickets for the County Championship.

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Table with 2 columns: Category and Price. Includes items like Advertisements, Business Notices, and Domestic Situations.

DEATHS
ELIOTT—On 22nd May at the ...

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GARDNER—In loving memory of ...

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
PEGGY STAFFORD-ALLEN and her ...

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Flowers help to express our ...

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS
FURZE-ROBERTS—On May 22nd ...

FAIRBATHER, IAN, youngest son ...

GRAY, ELIZABETH LOWELL—On ...

HAMILTON DEANE—On May 21st ...

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BIRTHS
BATHACHE—On May 22nd to ...

CHERRY—On May 17th to Bridget ...

FORBES—On May 21st to Robert ...

HARE—On May 23rd to St. Thomas ...

KANS—On May 22nd at Rotterdam ...

KELLY—On May 23rd at Westminster ...

MAGILL—On May 22nd at Edith ...

POITIAN—On 22nd May 1974, at ...

ROBERTSON, Margery (Peggy)—On ...

DEATHS
BARTON—On May 23rd 1974, ...

EDWARDS—Treasured happy ...

APPELBY, JOHN CRANSTON of ...

DICKSON—On May 22nd, ...

BEAVER, ARTHUR BOVILLE ...

MEMORIAL SERVICES
CAIN—A memorial service for ...

EDWARDS—Treasured happy ...

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